



*HARLEY QUINN*  
**BLACK**  
*and*  
**WHITE**  
*+ REDDER*



SAMWEE'23

**13+**  
TEEN



# WHO IS BRUCE WAYNE?

# BATMAN

**VOL. 2:**  
THE BAT-MAN OF GOTHAM

Written by  
**CHIP ZDARSKY**

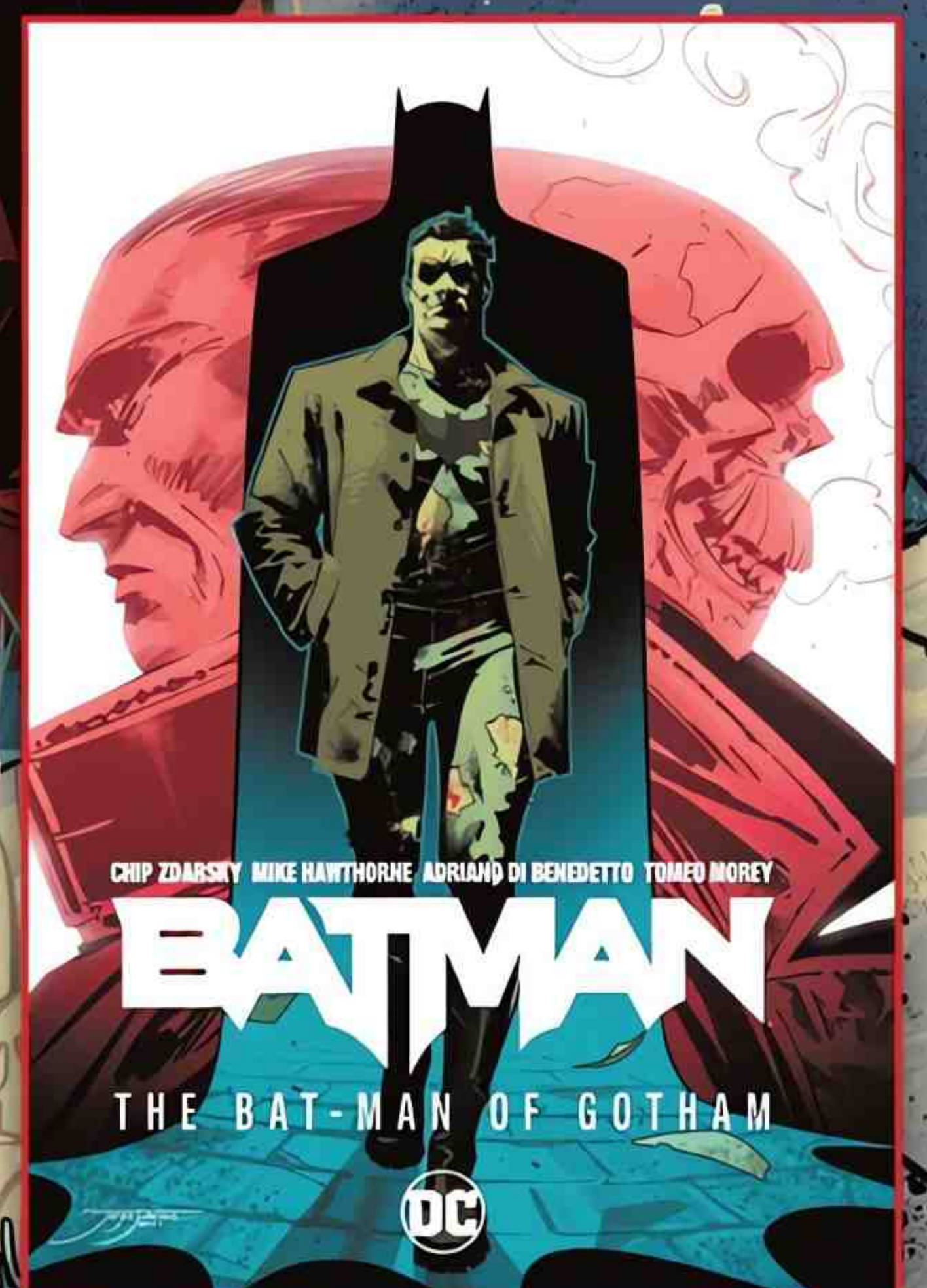
Art by  
**MIKE HAWTHORNE**

Cover by  
**JORGE JIMENEZ**

*"It's a huge and epic idea at work here,  
and the creative team pulls it off" —AIPT*



AUGUST







HARLEY QUINN  
**BLACK**  
and  
**WHITE**  
+  
**REDDER**

**CHAPTER FOUR**





**HARLEY QUINN**

**BLACK**  
**WHITE**

**REDDER**



**"ORIGIN STORIES FOR DUMMIES"**

WRITER **KELLY THOMPSON**

ARTIST **ANNIE WU**

LETTERER **CLAYTON COWLES**

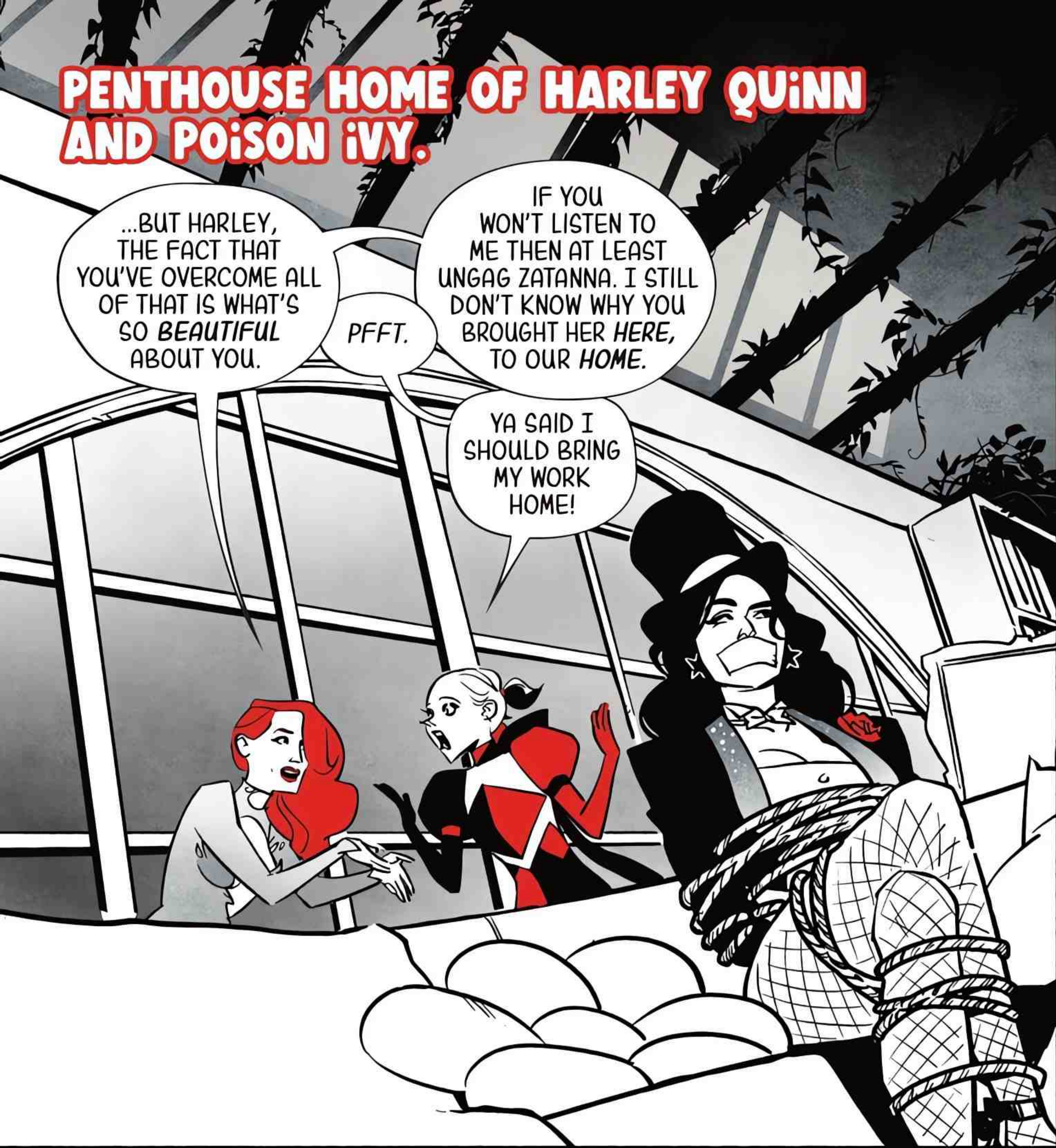
EDITOR **ANDREA SHEA**

HARLEY QUINN CREATED BY PAUL DINI & BRUCE TIMM  
SUPERMAN CREATED BY JERRY SIEGEL & JOE SHUSTER  
BY SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT WITH THE JERRY SIEGEL FAMILY

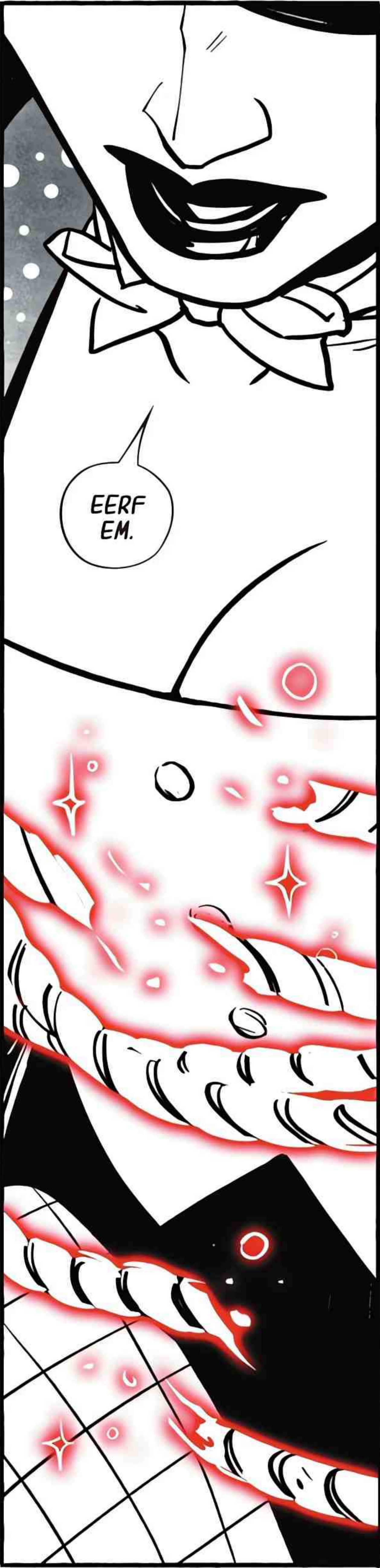




**PENTHOUSE HOME OF HARLEY QUINN AND POISON IVY.**









# THUGS & SLUGS.

"IT ALL STARTED AT MY  
USUAL POST-CAPER  
WATERING HOLE.

HEY, I SAID  
I WANTED A LOT OF  
UMBRELLAS, MO! WHAT IS  
THIS THREE-UMBRELLA  
NONSENSE?!

DON'T TRY  
TO STIFLE MY  
CREATIVITY,  
MO!

QUINN, WHY  
WOULD ANYONE  
WANT EVEN *THREE*  
UMBRELLAS, LET  
ALONE *MORE*?

HARLEY?  
I DUNNO...

...SHE'S  
GOT SOME COOL  
MOVES.

I MEAN,  
DON'T LET HER GET HER  
HANDS ON A BASEBALL BAT OR  
AN OVERSIZED CARTOON Mallet, I  
GUESS, BUT OTHER THAN THAT, WHAT'S  
THE DANGER? SHE'S JUST JOKER'S  
*GIRLFRIEND*. WHAT'S SO SCARY  
ABOUT THAT?

AGREED.  
JOKER'S PLAYED  
HER SO MANY TIMES IT'S  
HARD TO TAKE HER  
SERIOUSLY.

THAT'S  
TRUE.

AND, LIKE, SHE WILL  
*NEVER* BE FREE OF THAT. YOU DON'T  
JUST WALK AWAY FROM BEING THE JOKER'S  
GIRLFRIEND. LIKE, THAT'S...*FOR LIFE*.

I HEARD  
THEY GOT BACK  
TOGETHER.

**WHAT?!**

"IT WAS VERY CLEAR  
TA ME...AFTER THE  
VIOLENCE ENDED...

**EXIT**

"...THAT I HAVE  
AN ORIGIN STORY  
PROBLEM!

AND YOU'RE  
GONNA HELP ME,  
ZEE. I WANT A  
*NEW ORIGIN*.

AN' I WANT THE  
**BIG**  
ONE.

NO. YOU *DON'T*  
WANT THAT. EVEN *HE*  
DOESN'T WANT THAT, HARLEY.  
I'D ARGUE HE'D DO ALMOST  
ANYTHING TO *NOT*  
HAVE IT.

COME ONNNNN.  
HOW BAD COULD  
IT *ACTUALLY*  
BE?

PRETTY BAD. BESIDES, IVY'S  
RIGHT: THE VERY BEST THING  
ABOUT YOU IS THAT YOU TOOK  
THE CRAPPY HAND YOU WERE  
DEALT AND OVERCAME IT.  
YOU MADE YOURSELF INTO  
YOUR OWN WOMAN,  
HARLEY.





I WANT THE  
**BAT MAN**  
ORIGIN AN' I WANT  
IT NOW, ZEE!

≡Sigh≡

S'YELRAH  
NIGIRO SI YLLAICFFO  
DEIF-NAMTAB.

FEEL THE  
VENGEANCE!

THE  
RIGHTEOUSNESS!

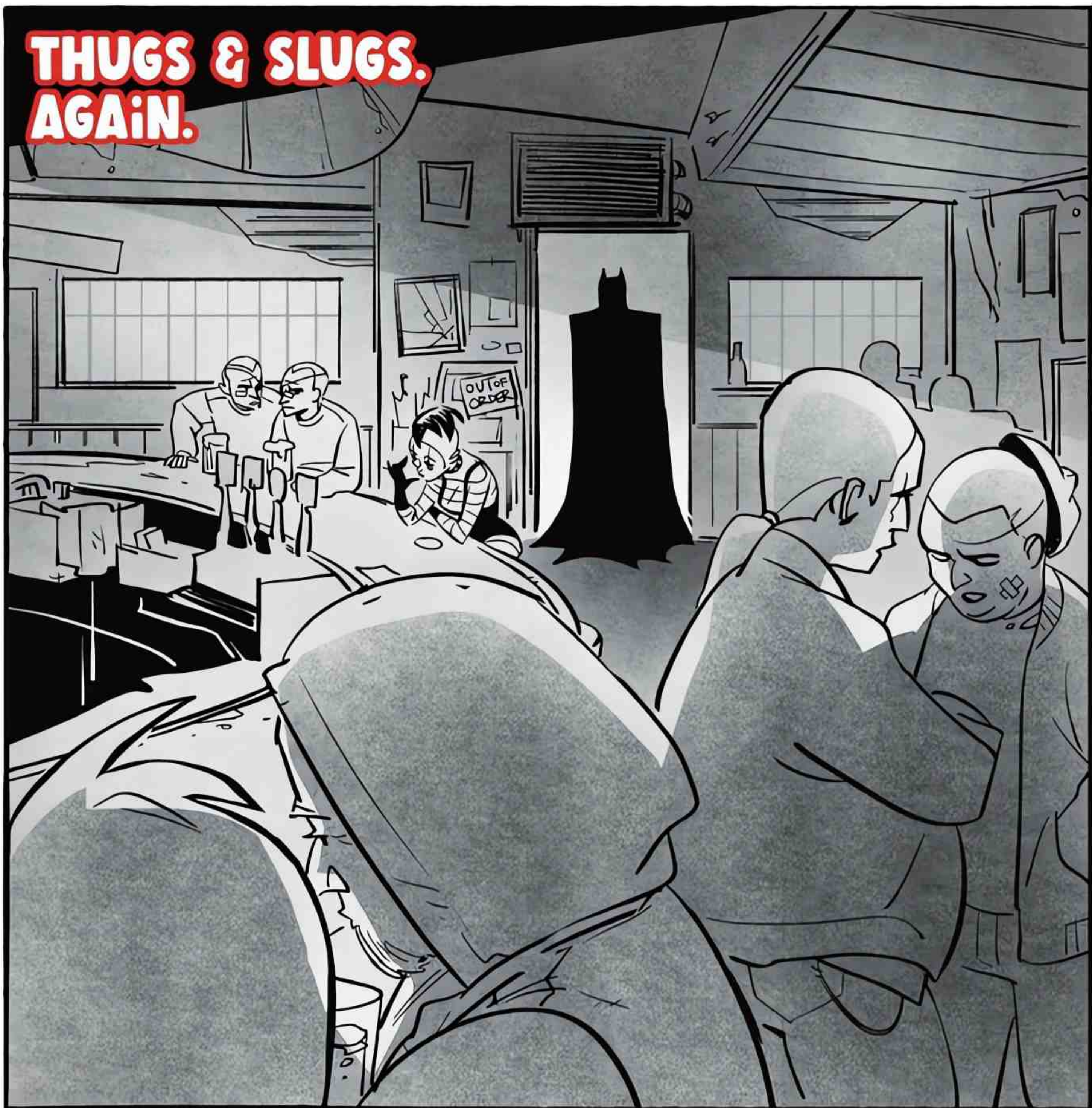
The  
grim-ness!



Yes, father,  
I *SHALL* become  
**THE BAT!**













**SUPERMAN!**  
**AGAIN!**

EKAM TI  
YELRAH, TUB EKAM  
TI NAMREPUS.

FEEL THE  
GOODNESS COURISING  
THROUGH YOU!

EVERYONE  
LOVES ME!

OOOOH!  
GLUTEUS MAXIMUS  
POWER!

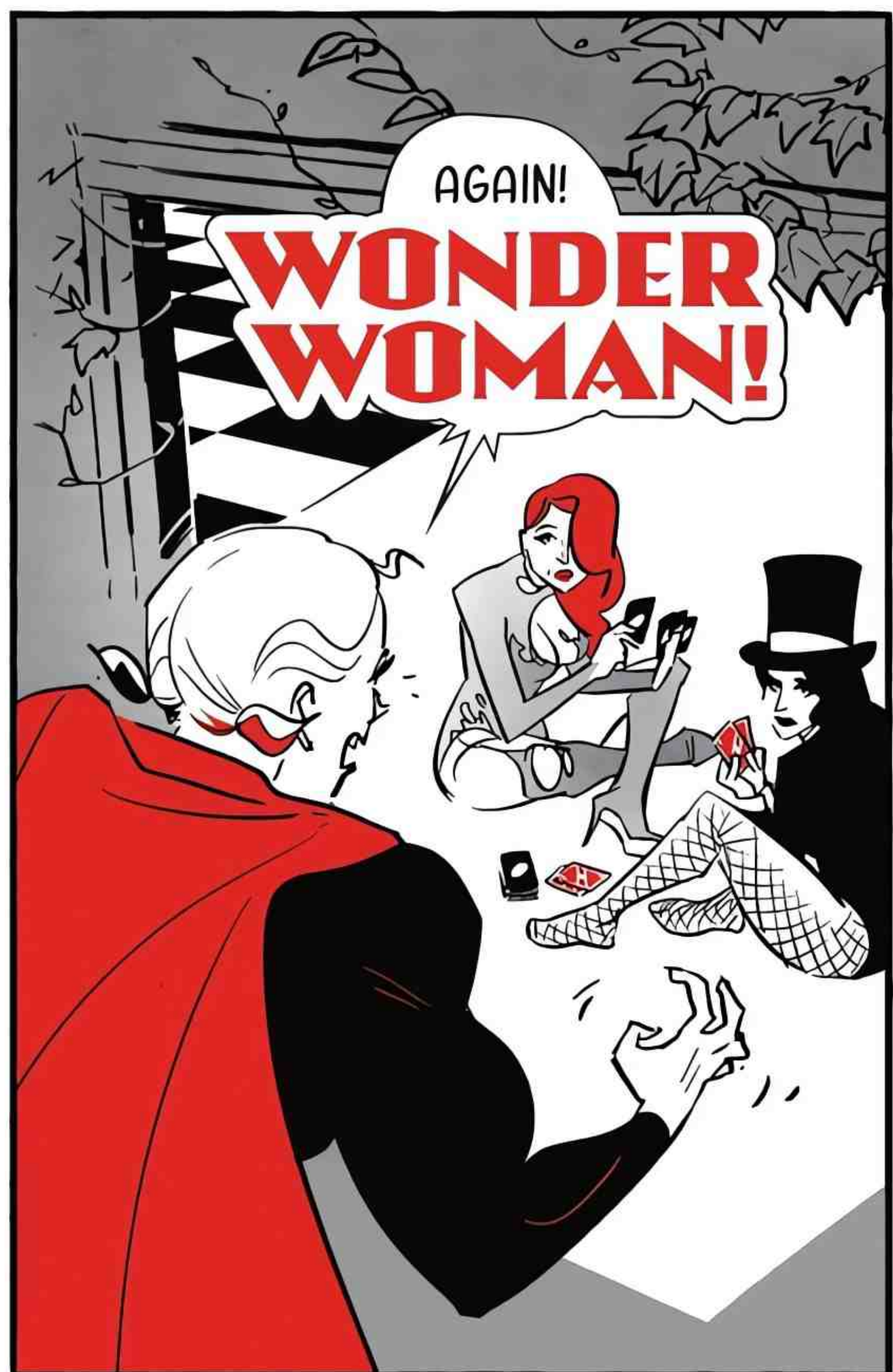
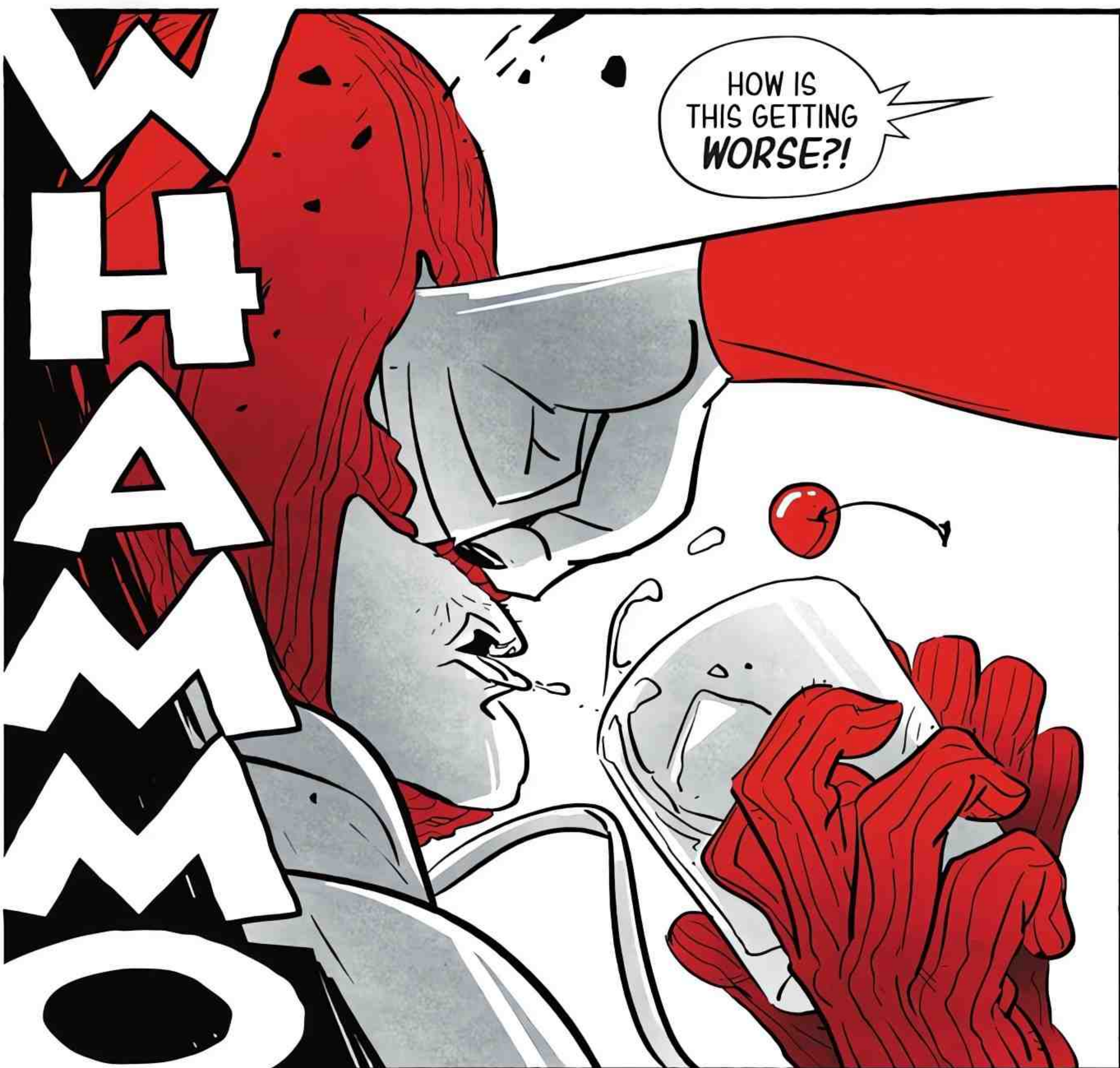
**BING!**

IT'S  
AN H!

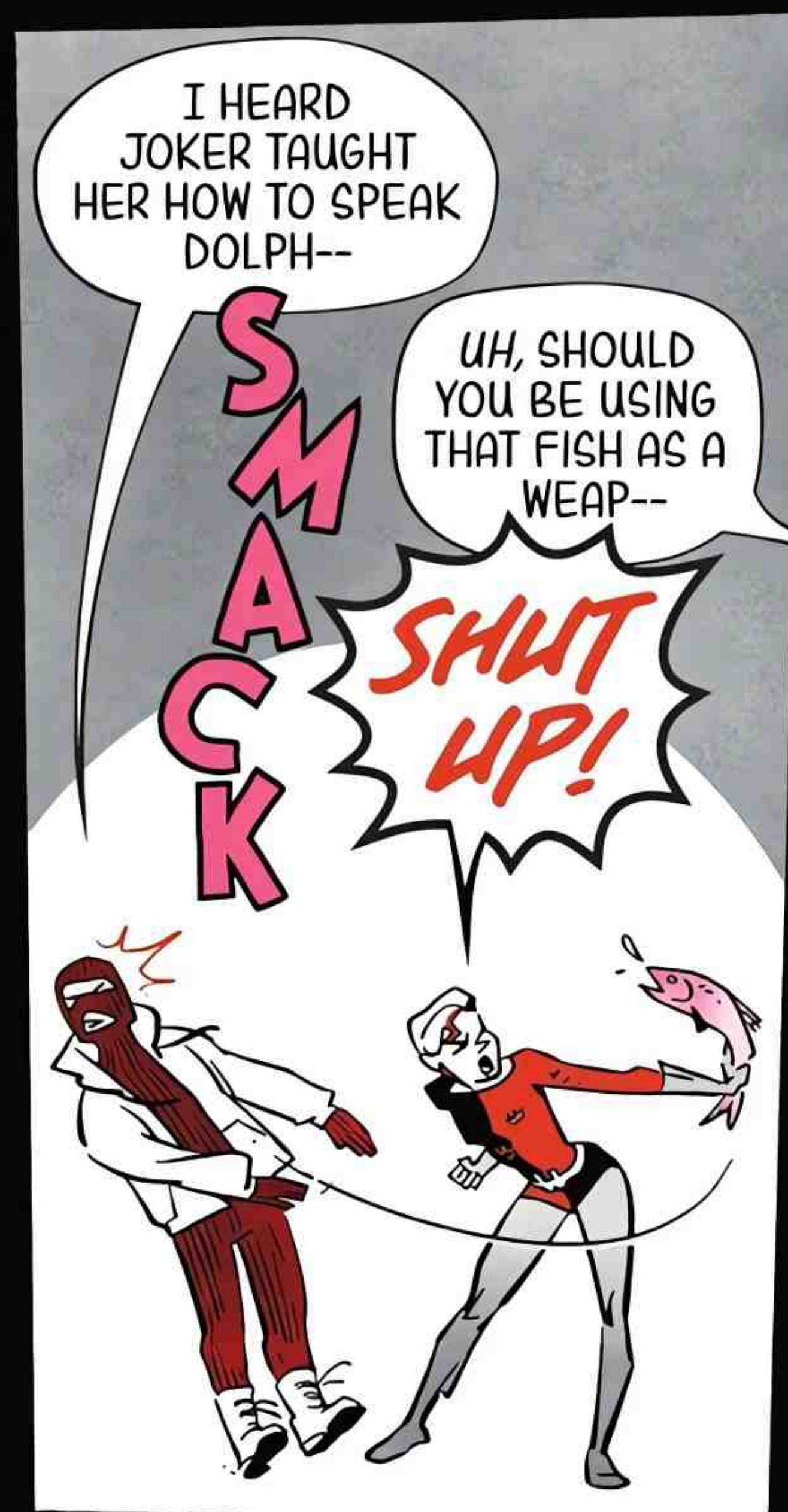
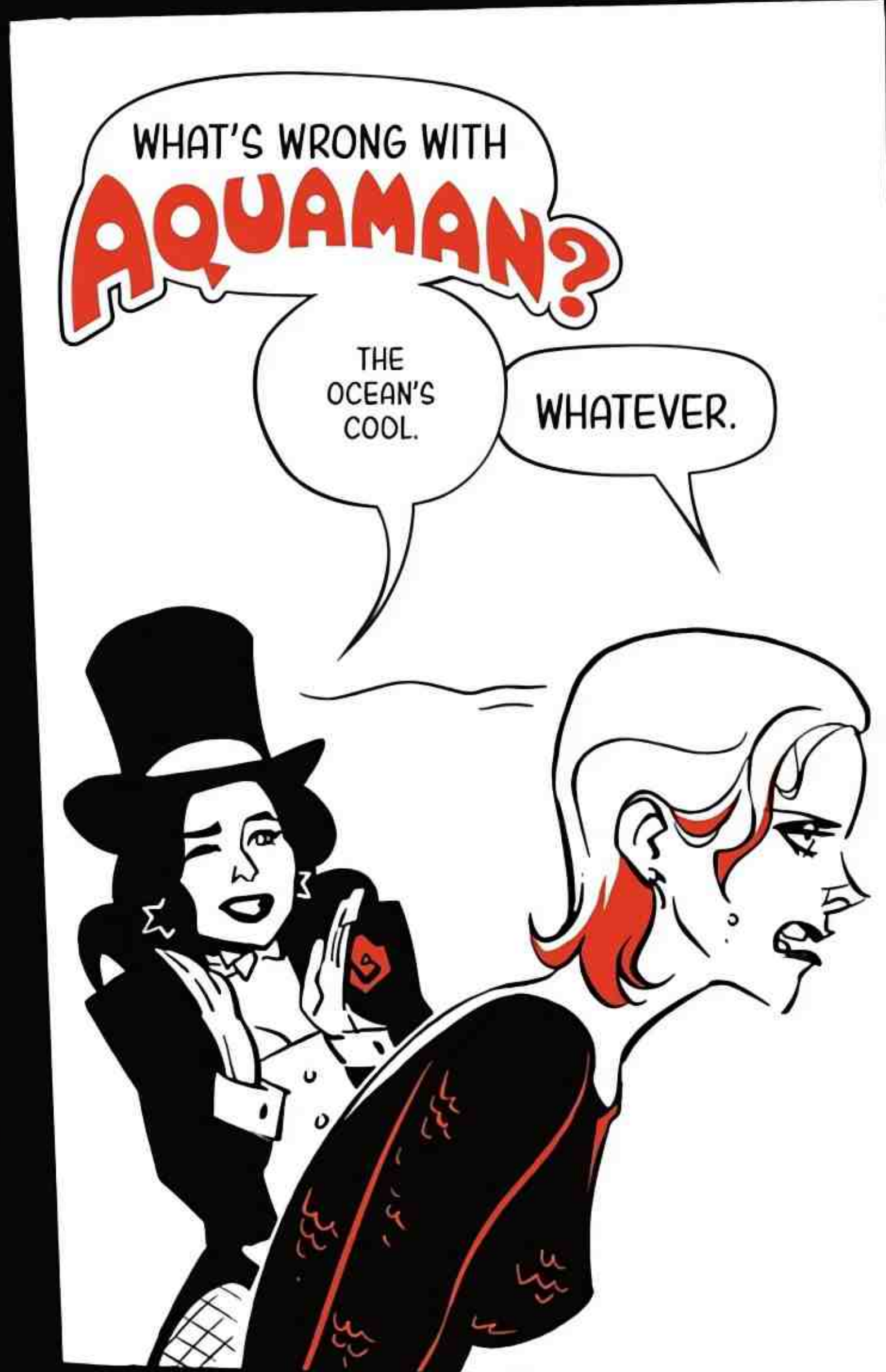
IT  
STANDS FOR  
HUNK.









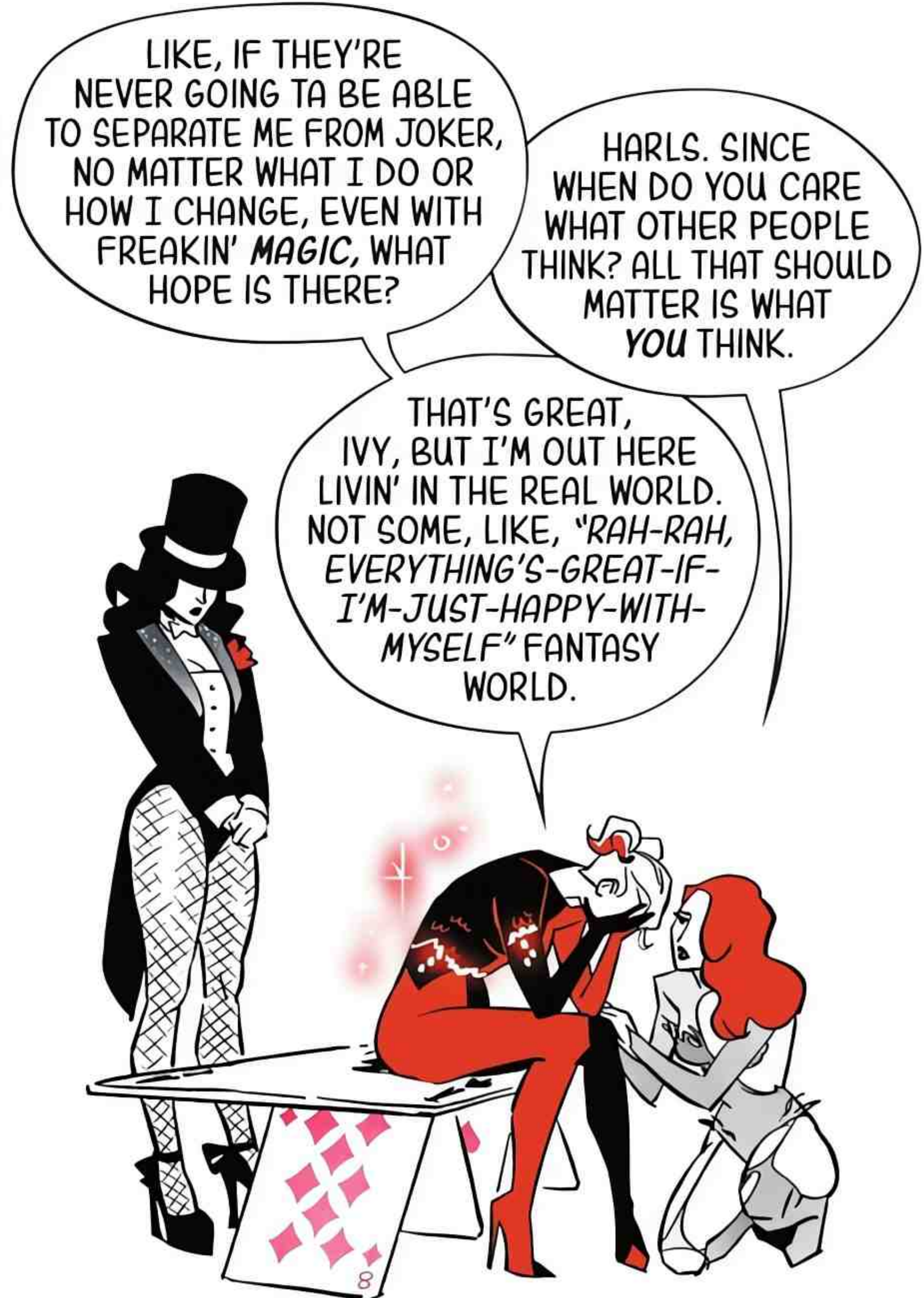






IT'S NO USE. I TRIED *EVERYONE*, EVEN STUPID *AQUAMAN*. AN' STILL, ALL THEY TALK ABOUT IS JOKER. I'LL NEVER BE FREE OF HIM... EVEN THOUGH I'M *ALREADY FREE*.

WHY DOESN'T ANYONE *ELSE* REALIZE IT?



LIKE, IF THEY'RE NEVER GOING TA BE ABLE TO SEPARATE ME FROM JOKER, NO MATTER WHAT I DO OR HOW I CHANGE, EVEN WITH FREAKIN' *MAGIC*, WHAT HOPE IS THERE?

HARLS. SINCE WHEN DO YOU CARE WHAT OTHER PEOPLE THINK? ALL THAT SHOULD MATTER IS WHAT *YOU* THINK.

THAT'S GREAT, IVY, BUT I'M OUT HERE LIVIN' IN THE REAL WORLD. NOT SOME, LIKE, "RAH-RAH, EVERYTHING'S-GREAT-IF-I'M-JUST-HAPPY-WITH-MYSELF" FANTASY WORLD.



I DON'T KNOW, HARLEY. I THINK BEING HAPPY WITH YOURSELF IS KIND OF *EVERYTHING*.

AND NOT TO BE WEIRD ABOUT IT, BUT YOU SEEM *REALLY* HAPPY WITH YOURSELF MOST OF THE TIME.

THAT'S TRUE. I *AM* VERY IMPRESSIVE.



I DIDN'T SAY IMPR--

SHHH SHHH. I GOT IT. STOP TALKING.



I AM...THE *GREATEST ORIGIN STORY* OF ALL TIME. I DEFEATED AND ESCAPED A VILLAIN THAT NOT EVEN *BATMAN* CAN HANDLE. I NOT ONLY SURVIVED, I *THRIVED*! I AM LIVIN' PROOF THAT THE JOKER HAS LIMITS, AND I AM THAT LIMIT. AM I HIS *KRYPTONITE*?!

UM, I THINK THAT--

SHHH! IT DOESN'T MATTER! IGNORE THE KRYPTONITE THING!

WHY SHOULD I CARE WHAT ANY TWO-BIT LOSERS THAT DON'T EVEN *KNOW* THE JOKER THINK OF ME? *ME!* I AM THE GREAT AN' POWERFUL *HARLEY QUINN*!



AND IF WHAT OTHER PEOPLE SAY BOTHERS ME, I CAN STILL JUST HIT 'EM WITH MY BASEBALL BAT UNTIL THEY STOP THINKING ABOUT IT!

≡SIGH≡

WE'VE RE-CREATED A MONSTER.

NO. SHE'S *HARLEY*. JUST AS SHE SHOULD BE.

FiN!



**HARLEY QUINN**  
**BLACK**  
*and*  
**WHITE**  
**+ REDDER**



**CHAPTER FIVE**





# "GREAT PETSPECTATIONS"

STORY & ART **BRANDT & STEIN**  
LETTERER **CLAYTON COWLES**  
EDITOR **ANDREA SHEA**

HARLEY QUINN CREATED BY PAUL DINI & BRUCE TIMM





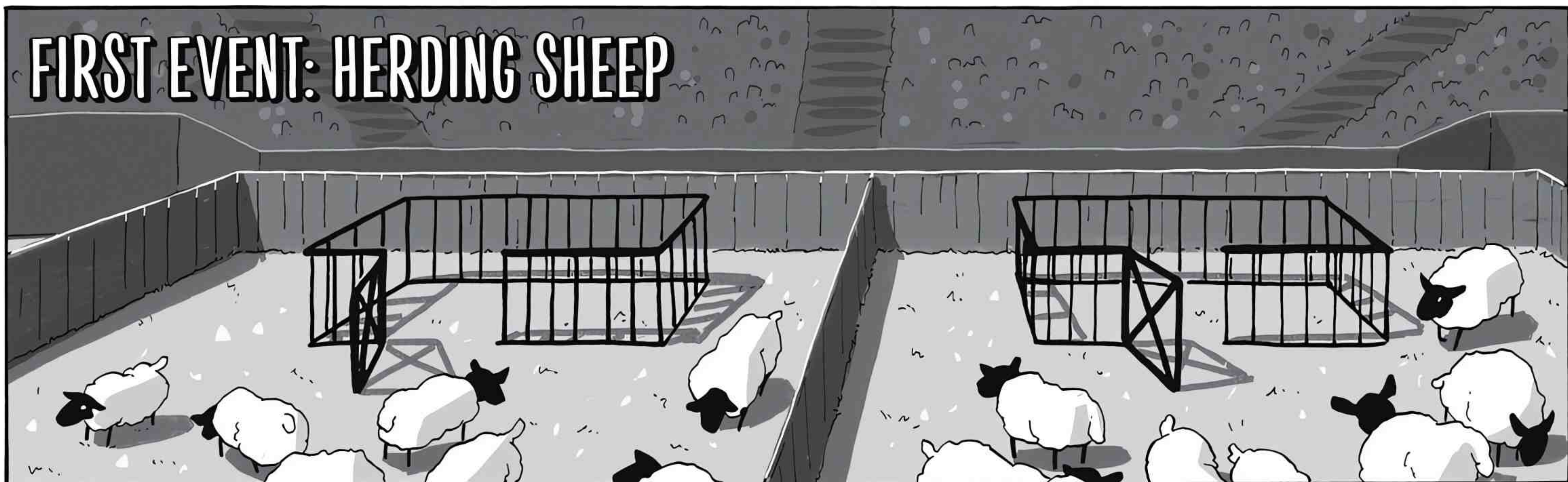








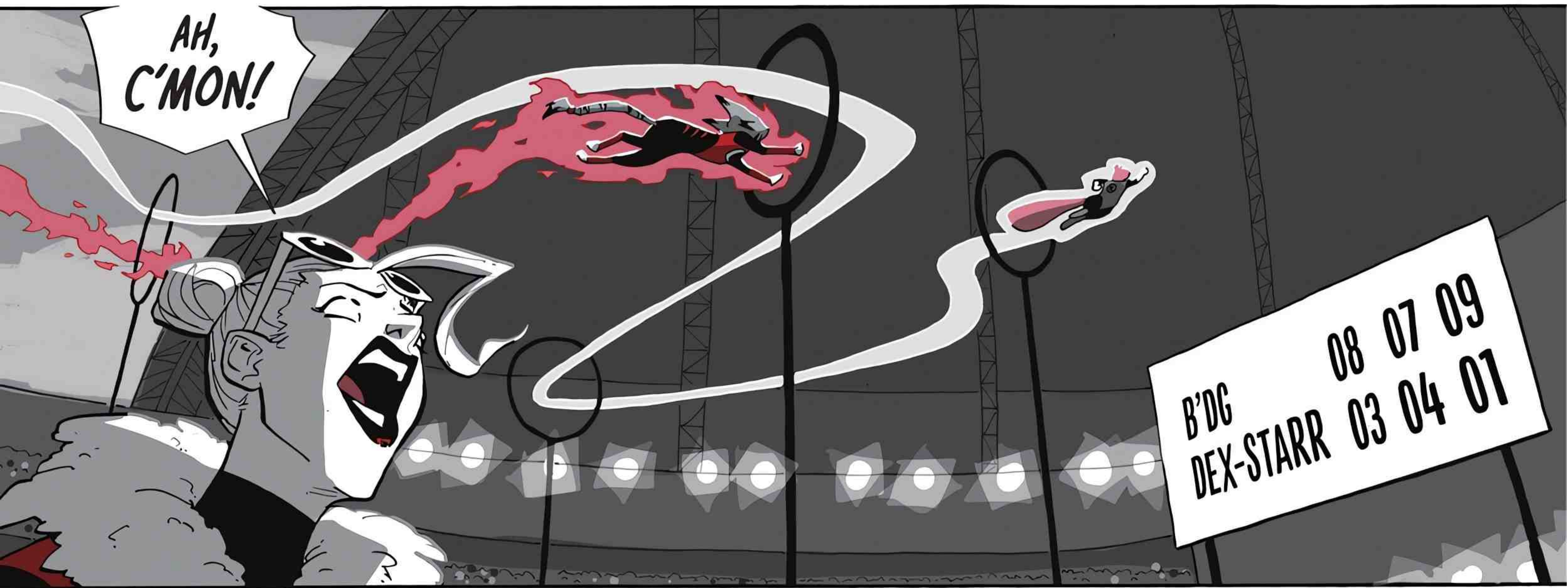
# FIRST EVENT: HERDING SHEEP



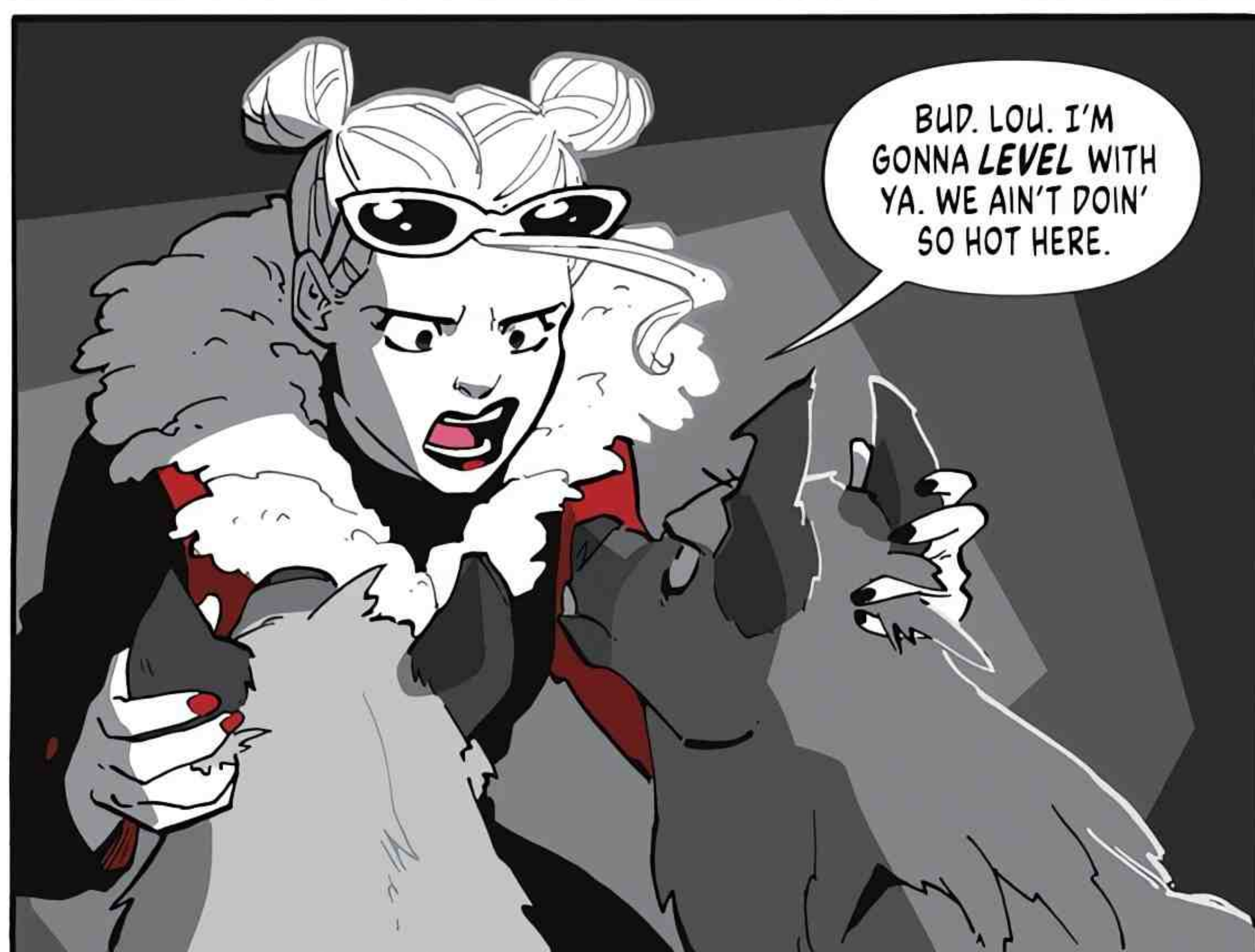
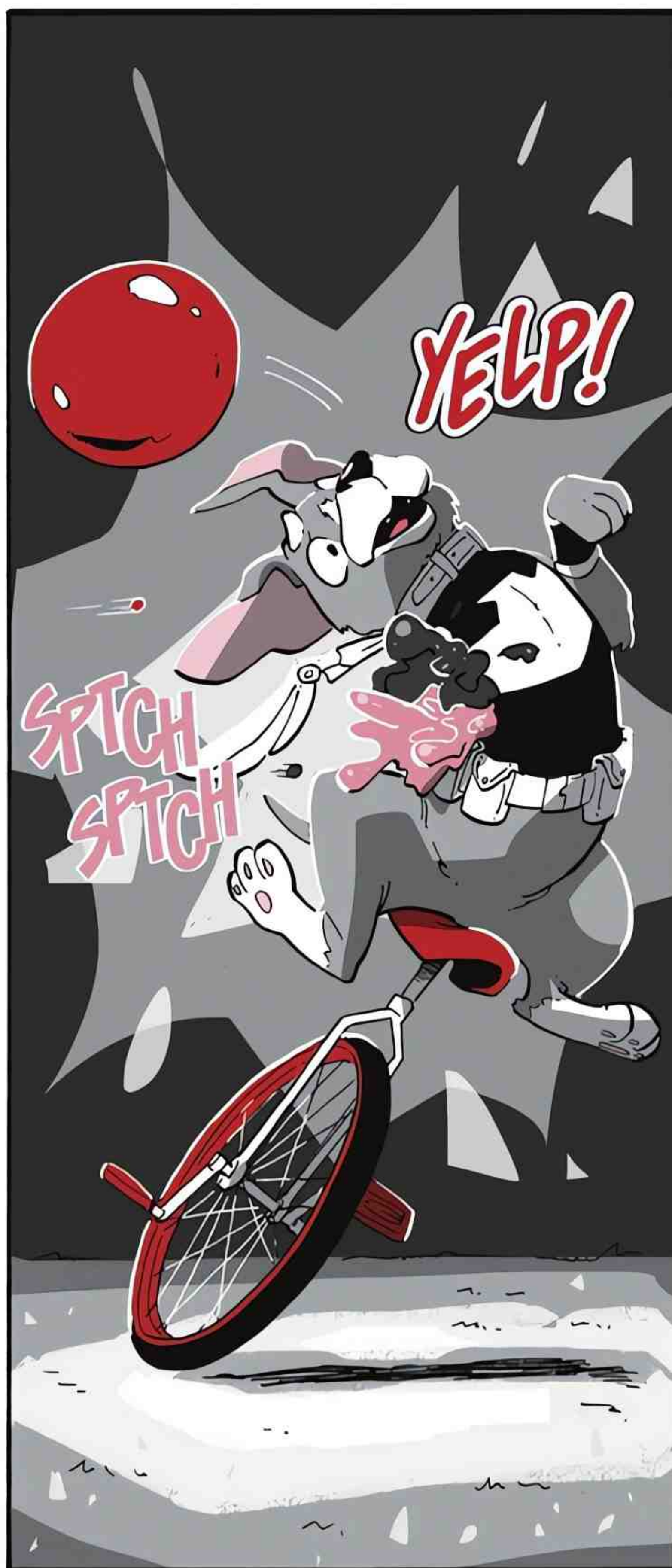














FINAL EVENT: FIELD RESCUE

GET 'EM, BOYS! SHOW THAT COW WHAT YER MADE OF!

THEY GOT THIS!

IT HASN'T GONE YOUR WAY SO FAR. HOW ARE YOU STILL SO OPTIMISTIC?

YOU'LL SEE, DUCKY. MY BOYS'RE SPECIAL.

SEE? WHAD I TELL YA?

YOU SURE ABOUT THAT?

WHAT--?

grrrrrr

grwwfff

AW, BOYS.

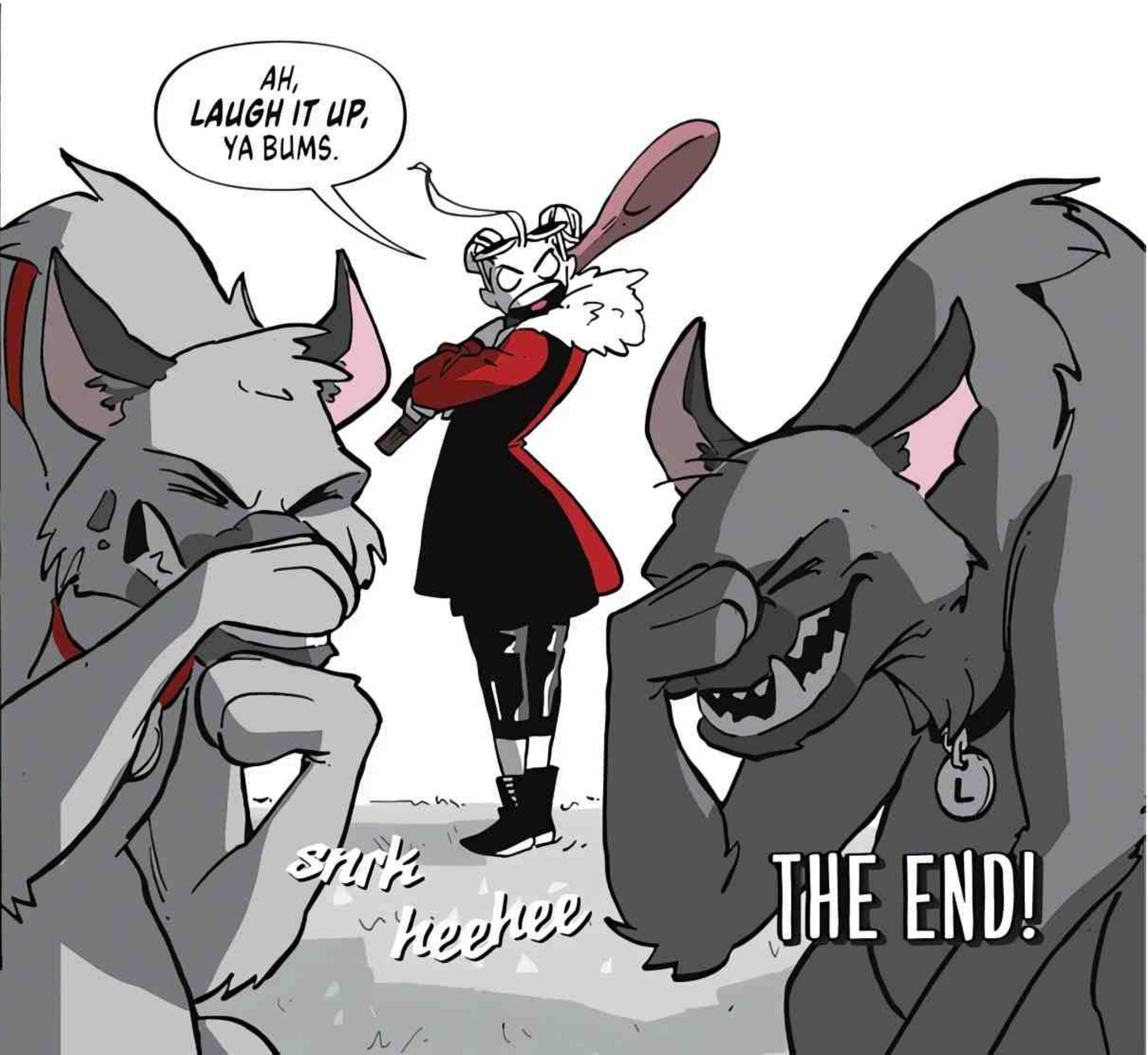
















## CHAPTER SIX





**HARLEY QUINN**  
**BLACK**  
**+ WHITE**  
**+ REDDER**

**"COFFEE AND PIE, OH MY"**

**WRITER RYAN PARROTT**

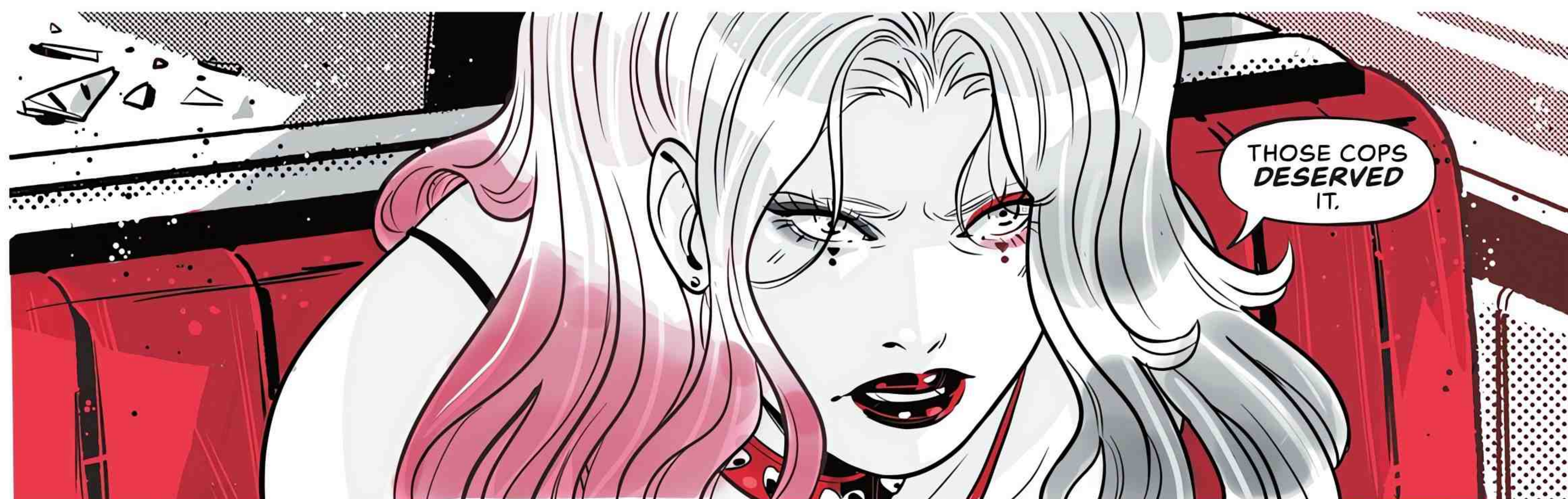
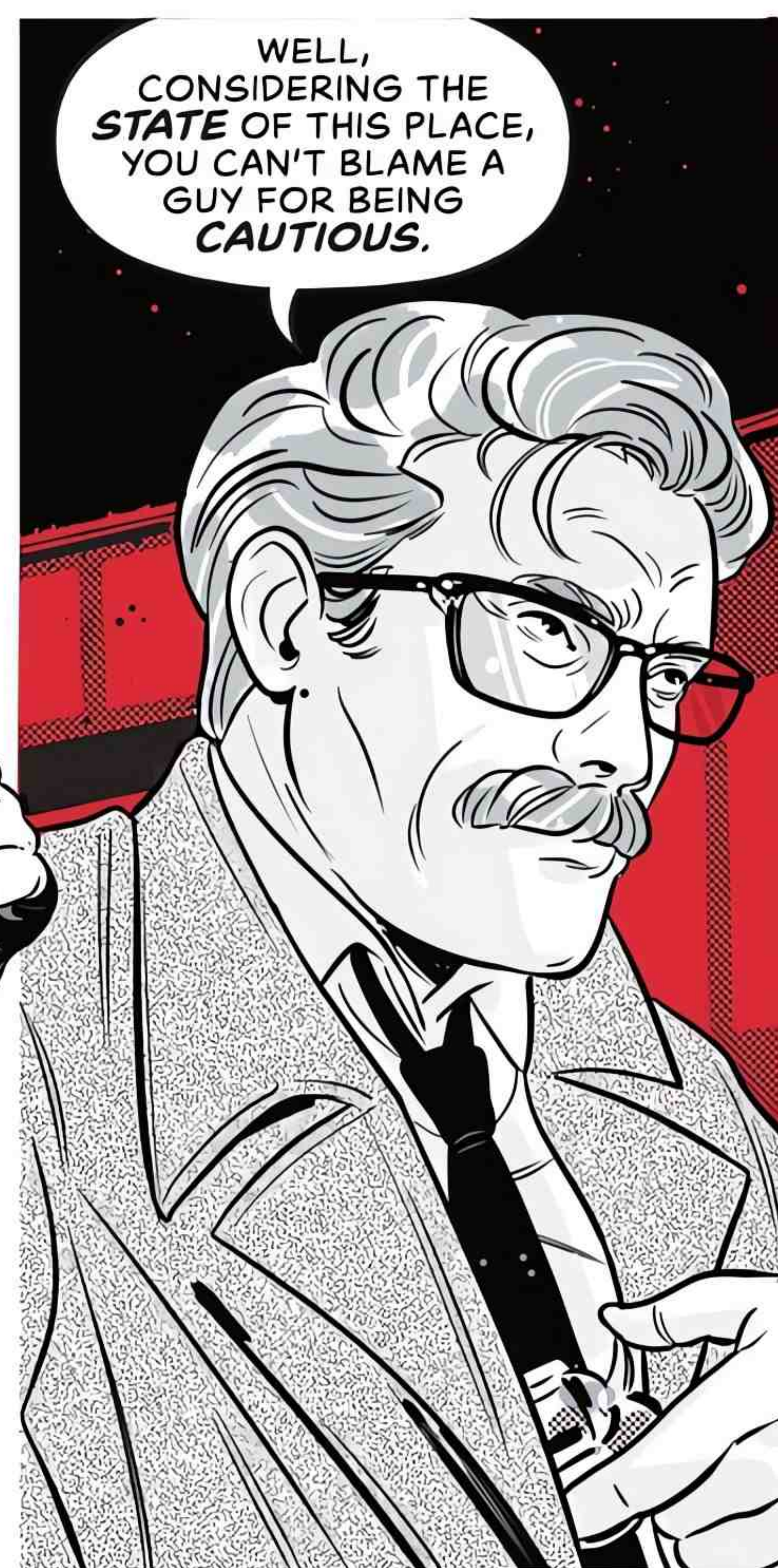
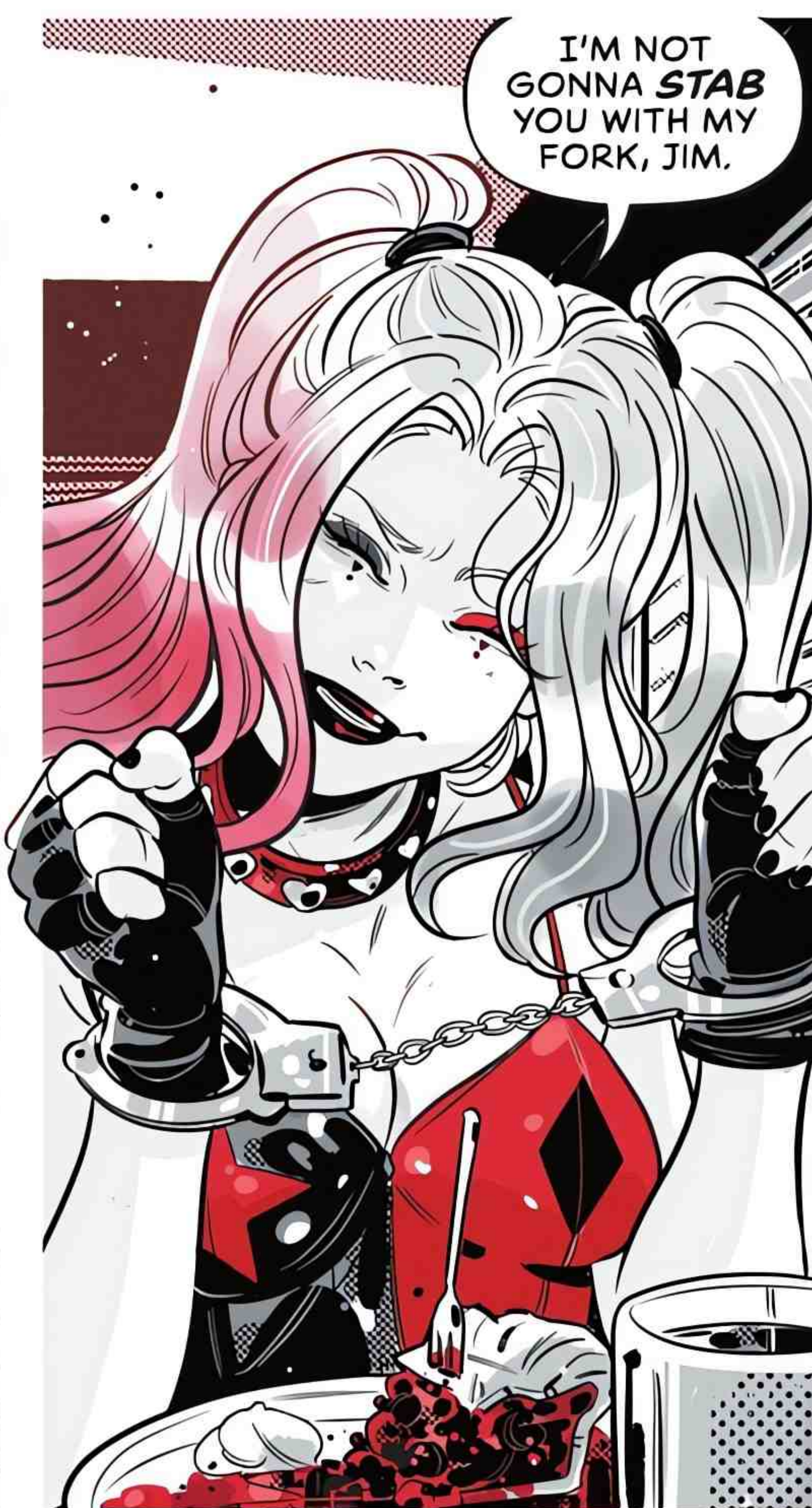
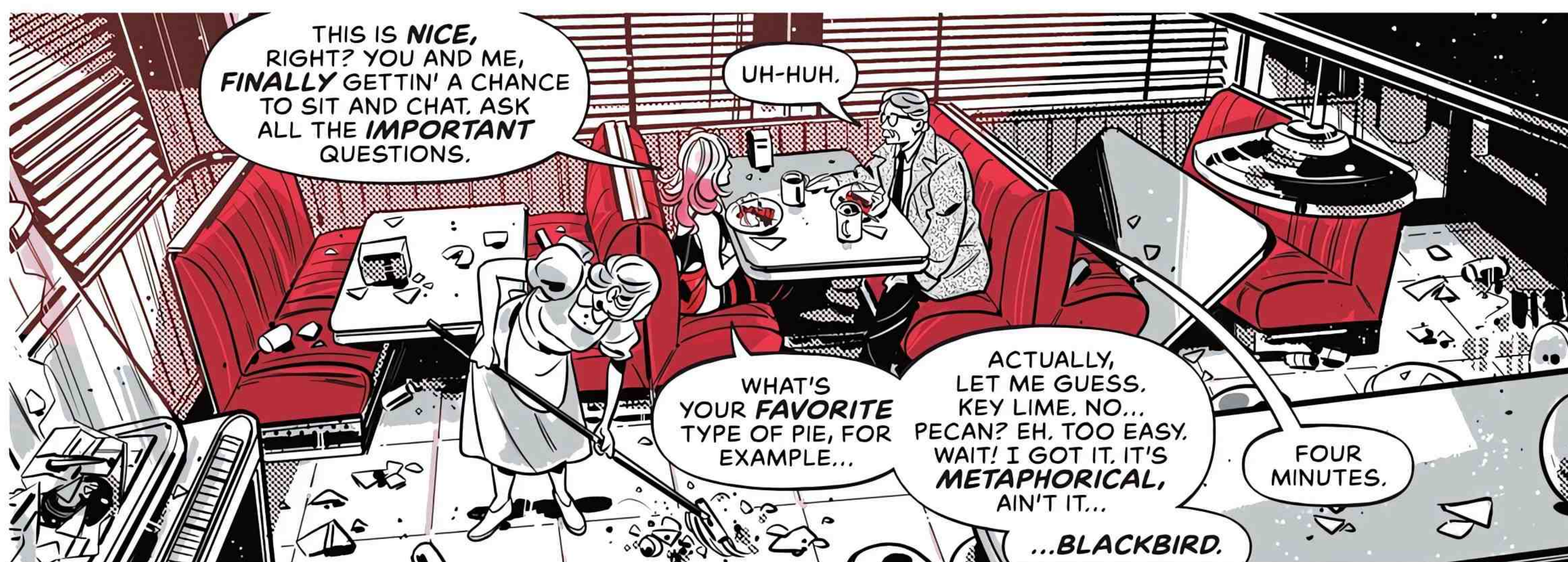
**ARTIST LUANA VECCHIO**

**LETTERER BECCA CAREY**

**EDITOR MATTHEW LEVINE**

**HARLEY QUINN CREATED BY PAUL DINI & BRUCE TIMM**









THREE HOURS  
EARLIER.

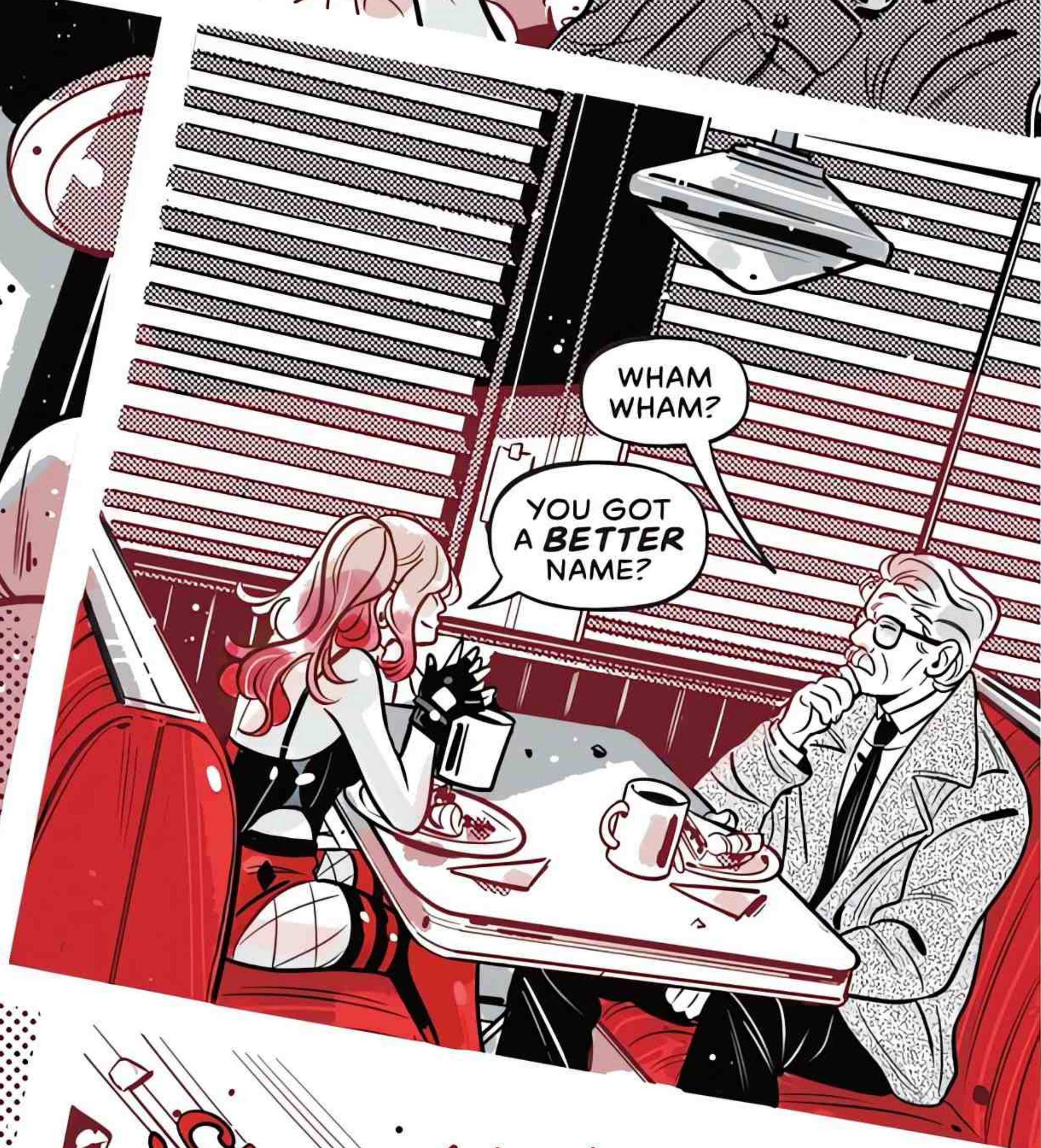
"YOU *REALLY*  
THINK WHAT  
HAPPENED IN HERE  
WAS *MY* FAULT?"

"IF THE *GIANT*  
MALLET FITS."



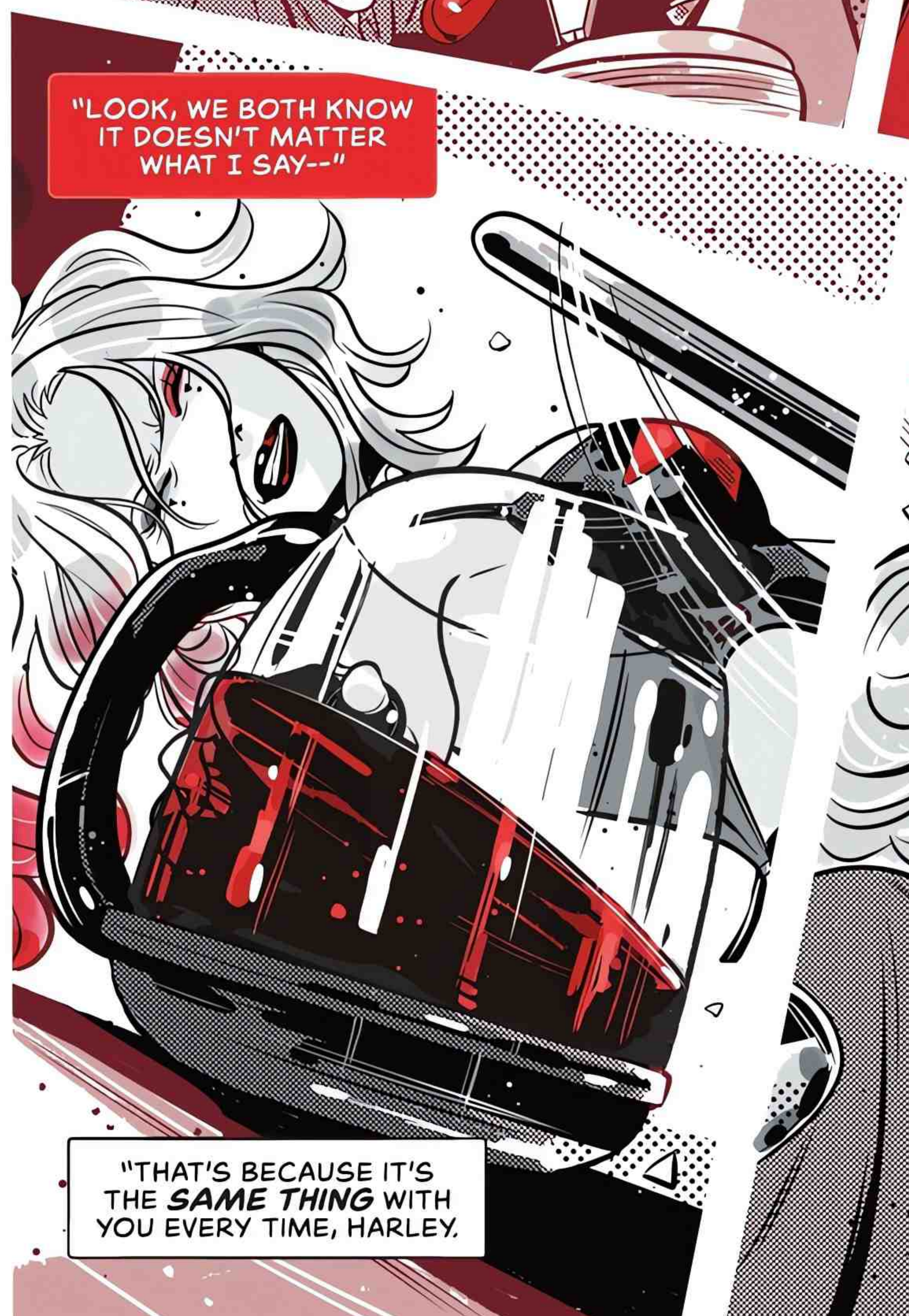
"HEY. WHAM  
WHAM GOES  
*EVERYWHERE*  
WITH ME,  
THANK YOU."

"HAVE YOU SEEN SOME  
OF THE CRAZIES RUNNING  
AROUND IN THIS TOWN?  
A GIRL'S GOTTA CARRY  
PROTECTION."



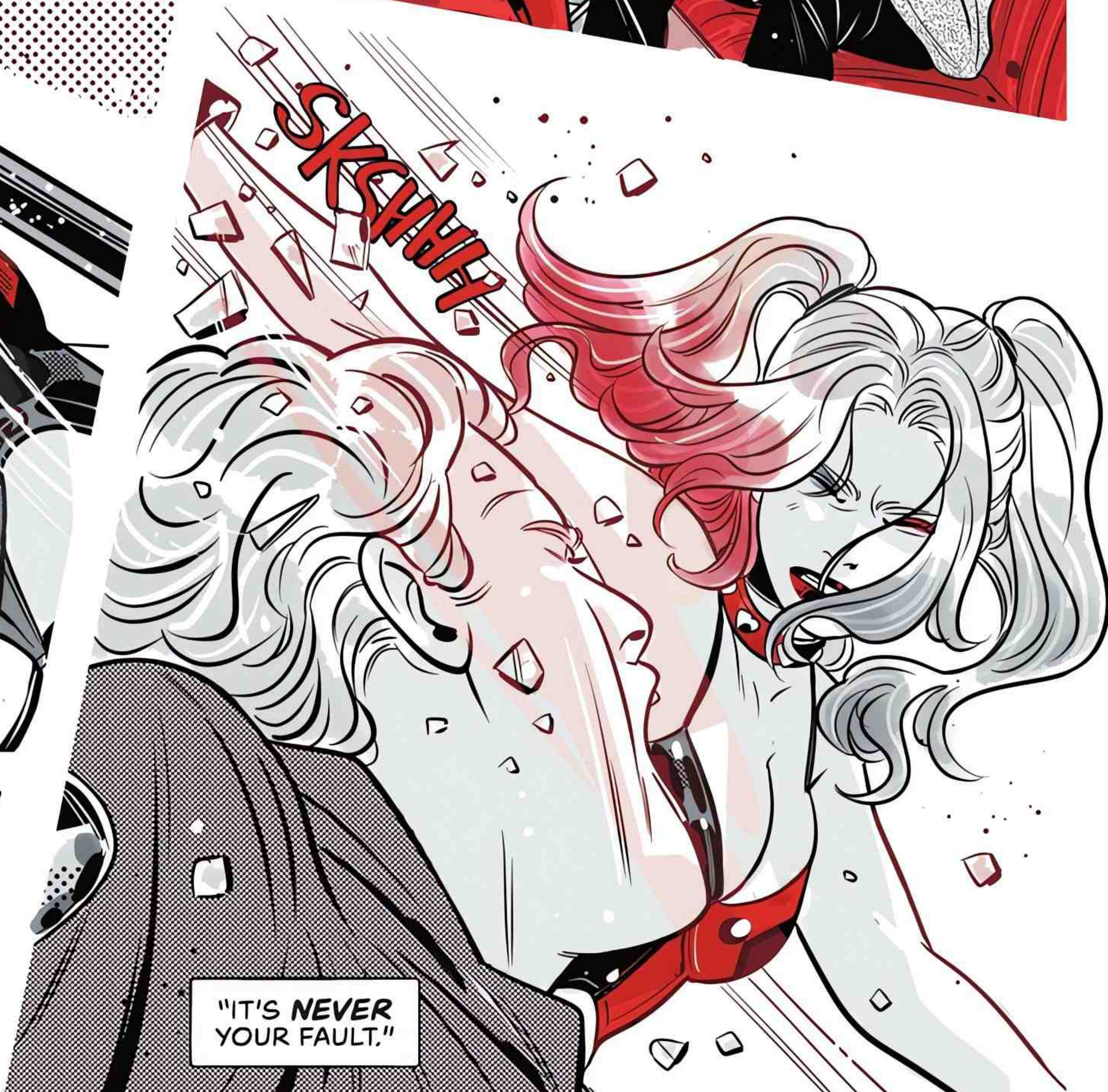
WHAM  
WHAM?

YOU GOT  
A *BETTER*  
NAME?



"LOOK, WE BOTH KNOW  
IT DOESN'T MATTER  
WHAT I SAY--"

"THAT'S BECAUSE IT'S  
THE *SAME THING* WITH  
YOU EVERY TIME, HARLEY."



"IT'S *NEVER*  
YOUR FAULT."





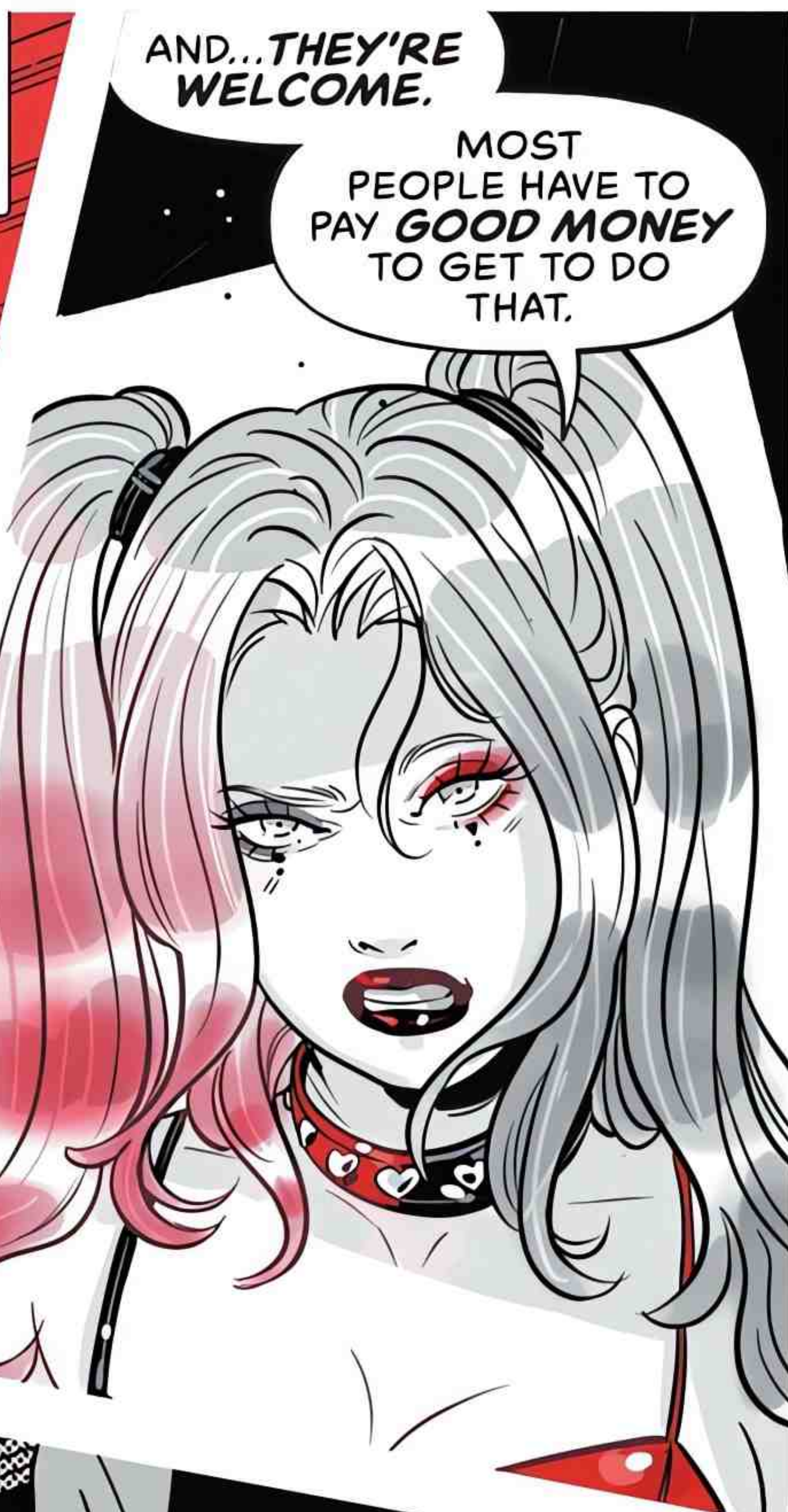
"TAKE, FOR EXAMPLE...  
THE GOTHAM KNIGHTS."

"I SUPPOSE YOU THINK  
THEY **DESERVED** WHAT  
YOU DID TO THEM?"

"OH NO. THEY  
DESERVED **MUCH**  
WORSE."



"YOU PUMPED **LAUGHING**  
**GAS** INTO THEIR TEAM BUS  
AND MADE THEM **FIGHT**  
EACH OTHER TO GET OUT."

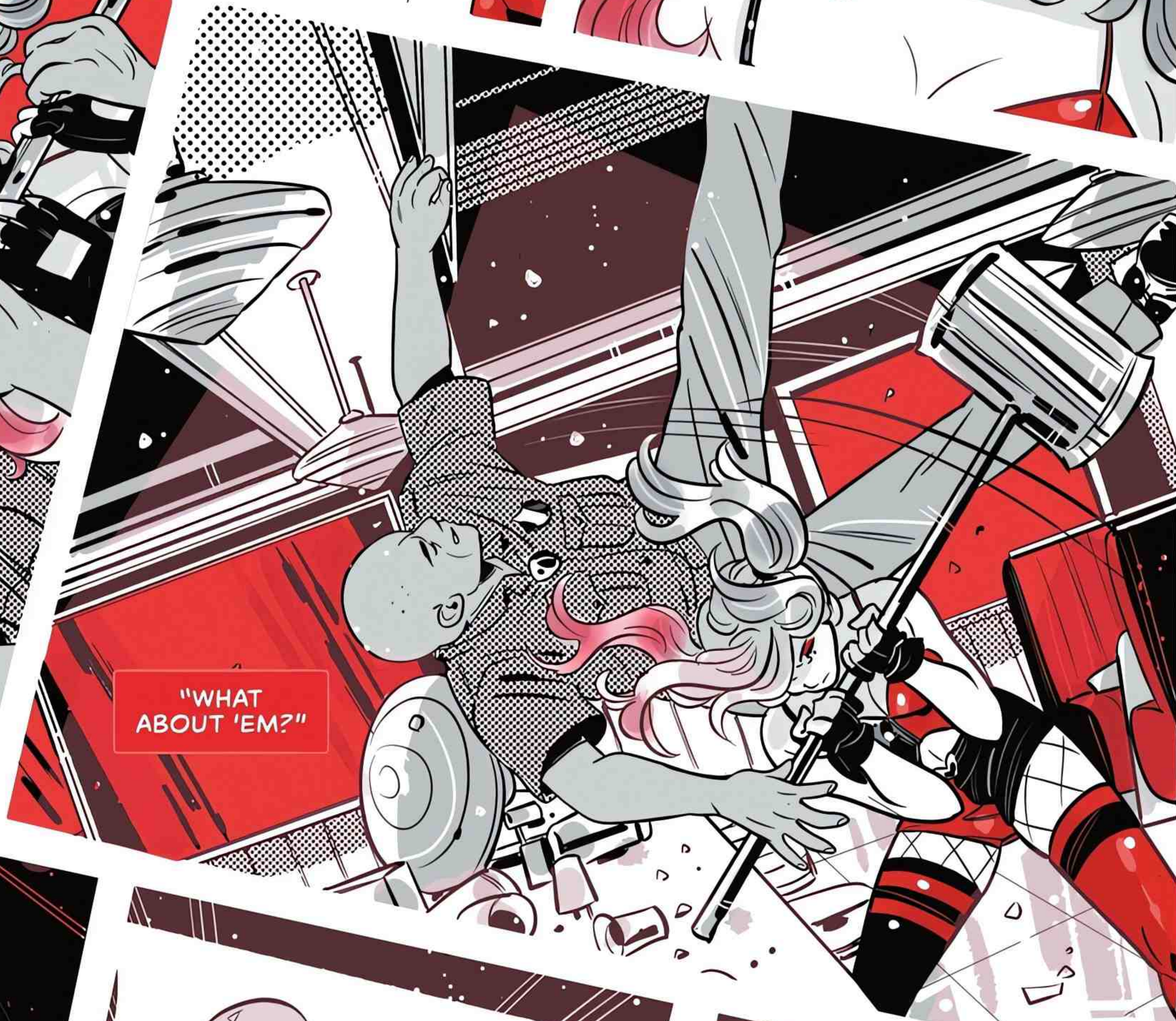


AND...**THEY'RE**  
**WELCOME.**

MOST  
PEOPLE HAVE TO  
PAY **GOOD MONEY**  
TO GET TO DO  
THAT.



"WHAT  
ABOUT THOSE  
**HOSTAGES**  
AT FIRST  
NATIONAL?"



"WHAT  
ABOUT 'EM?"



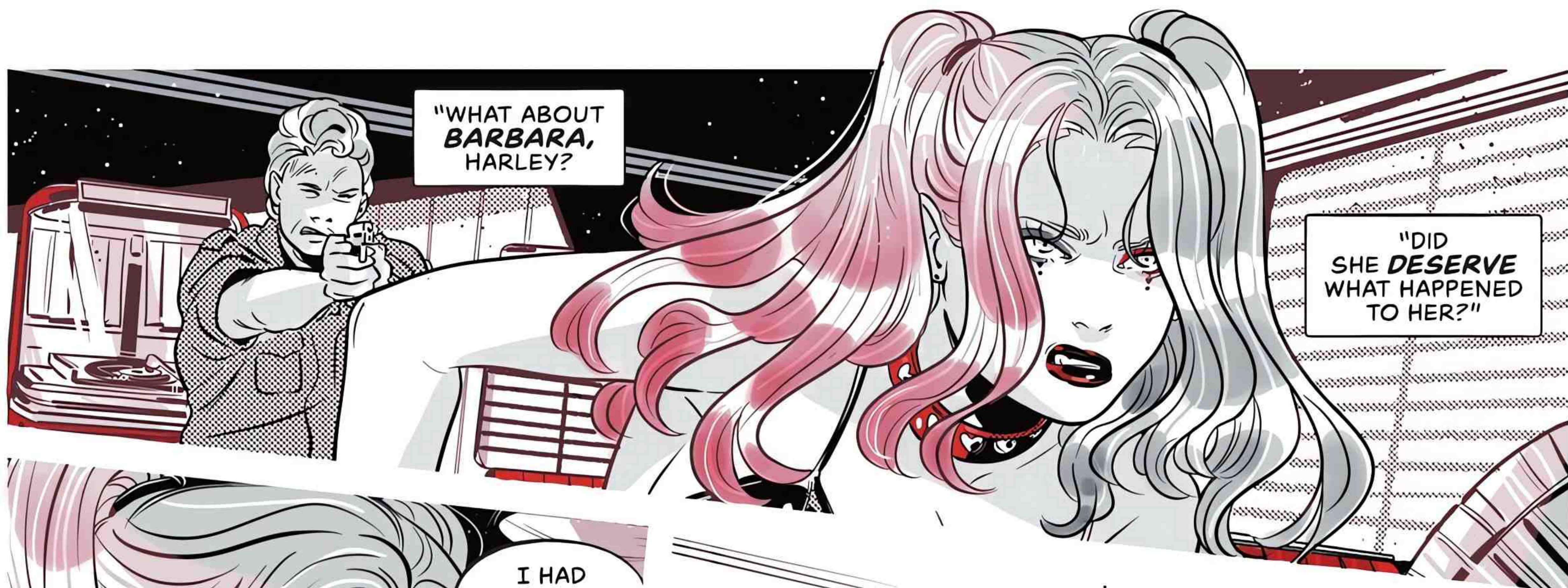
"WHILE YOUR GOONS  
LOOTED THE VAULT,  
YOU MADE THEM PLAY  
**HOT POTATO** WITH A  
**HAND GRENADE.**"



"IT WAS  
A **TRUST-**  
**BUILDING**  
EXERCISE!"







"WHAT ABOUT  
**BARBARA,**  
HARLEY?"

"DID  
SHE **DESERVE**  
WHAT HAPPENED  
TO HER?"



I HAD  
**NOTHING**  
TO DO WITH  
THAT.

"BUT YOUR  
**BOYFRIEND**  
DID.



AND NOW MY  
DAUGHTER WILL  
NEVER **WALK**  
AGAIN.



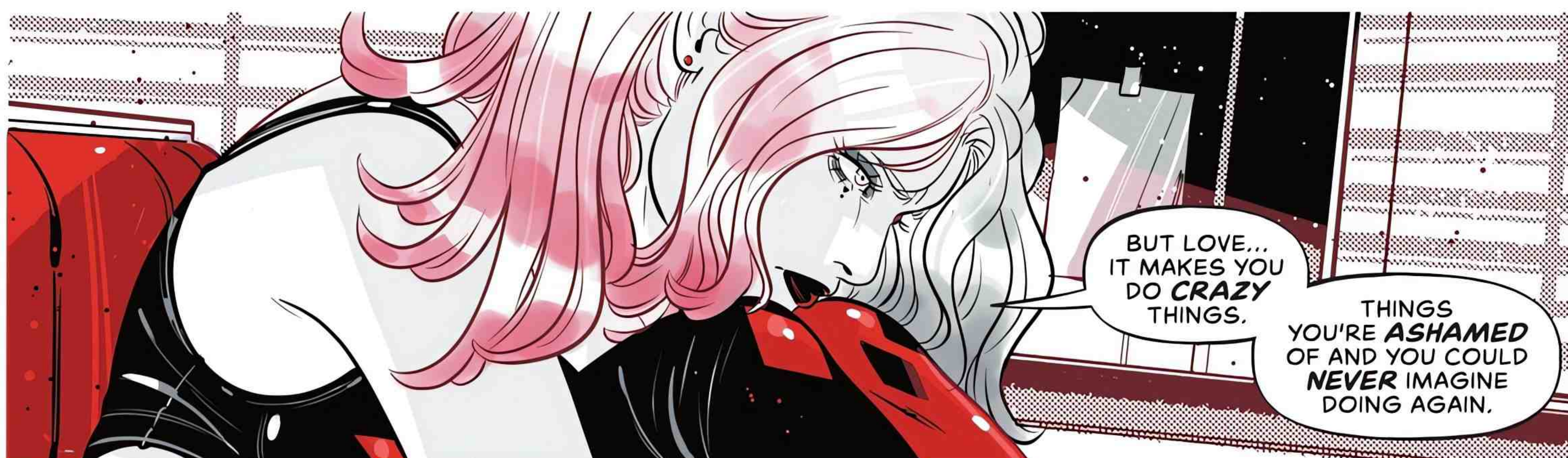
"EX-BOYFRIEND.  
VERY, **VERY** EX."

"AND I SUPPOSE THE  
FACT THAT YOU **LEFT**  
**HIM** MAKES YOU THE  
**VICTIM**, RIGHT?"

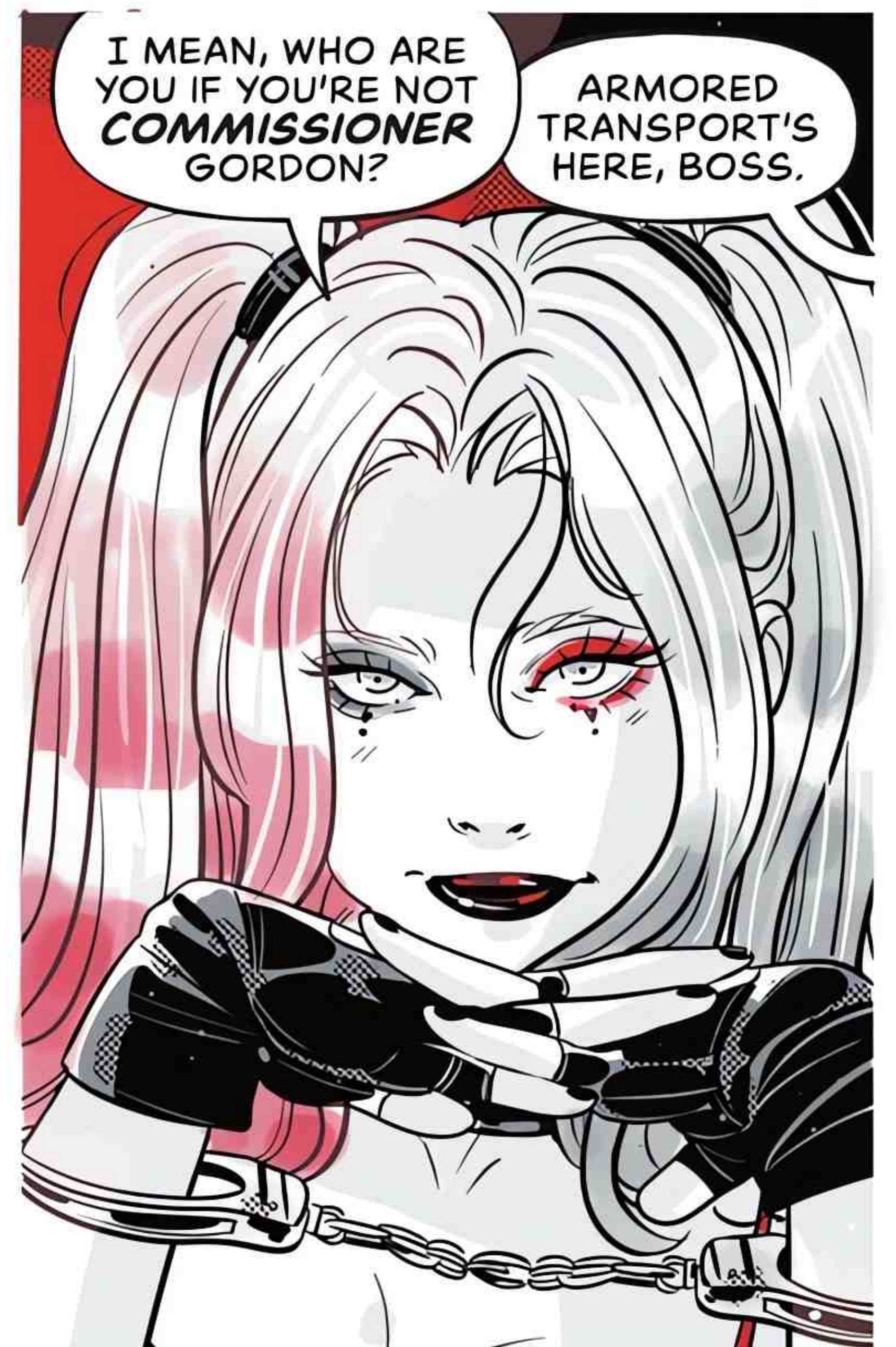
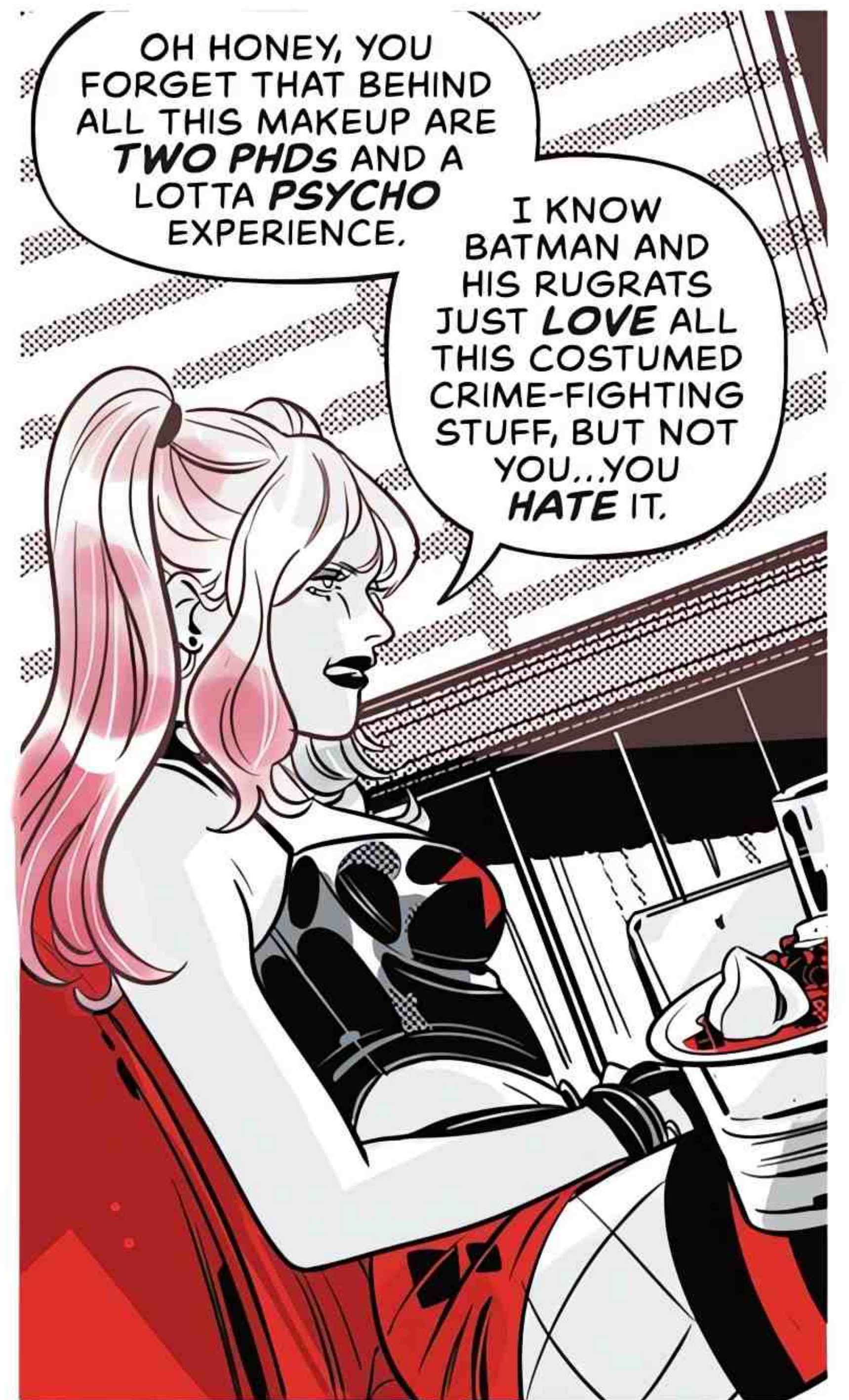
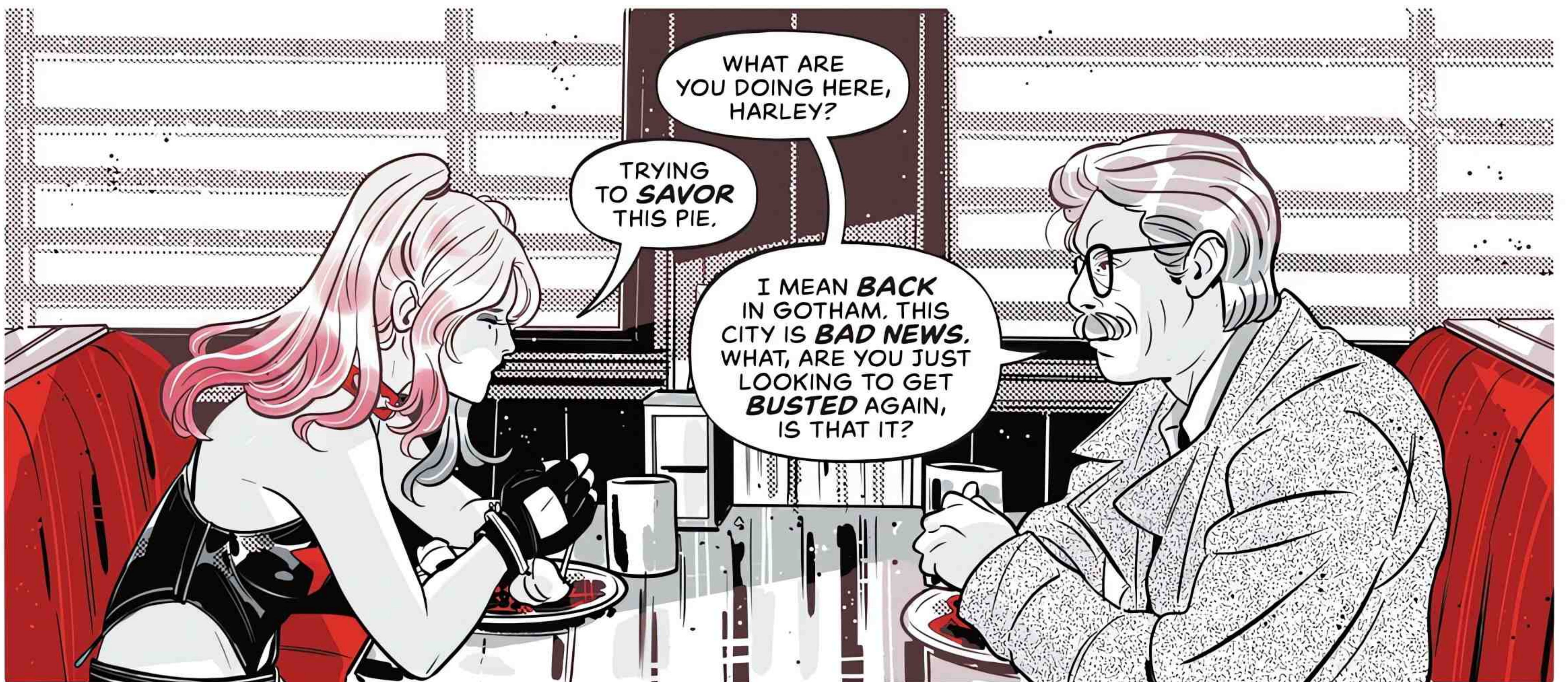
"EVEN THOUGH WE  
BOTH KNOW YOU  
HELPED HIM DO **A LOT**  
WORSE WHEN YOU TWO  
WERE TOGETHER."



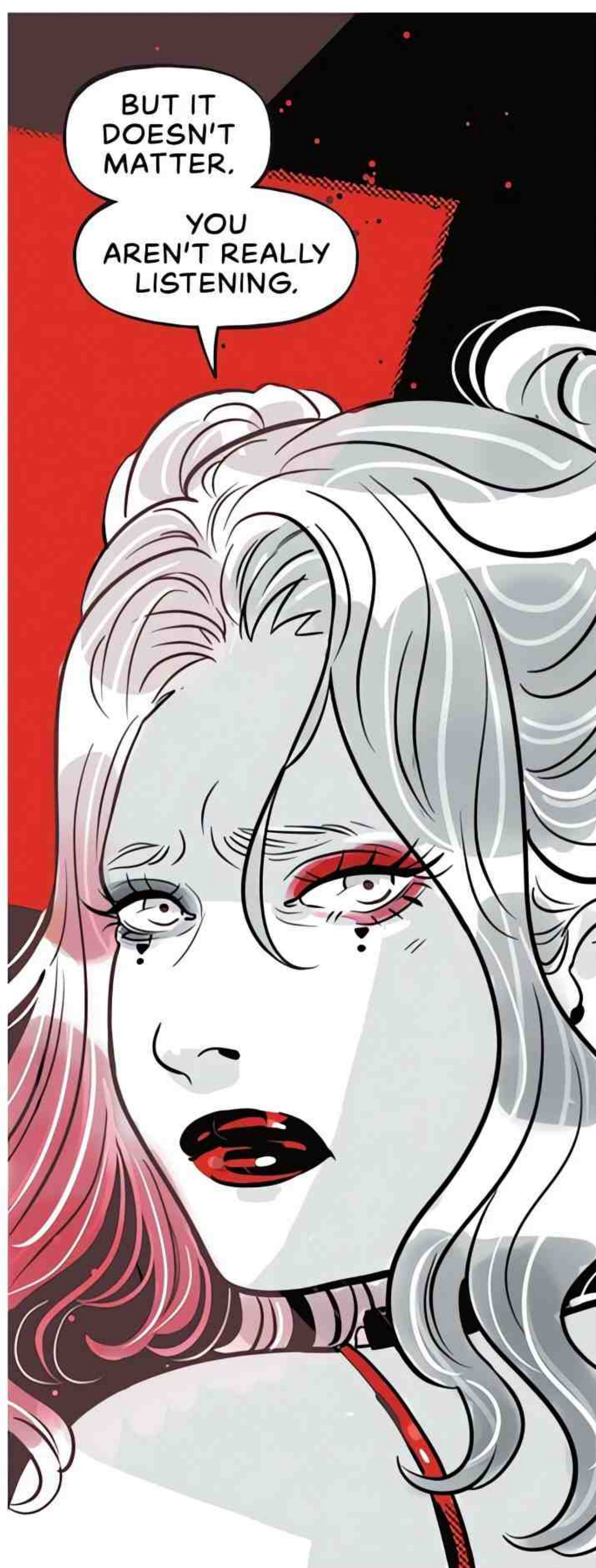
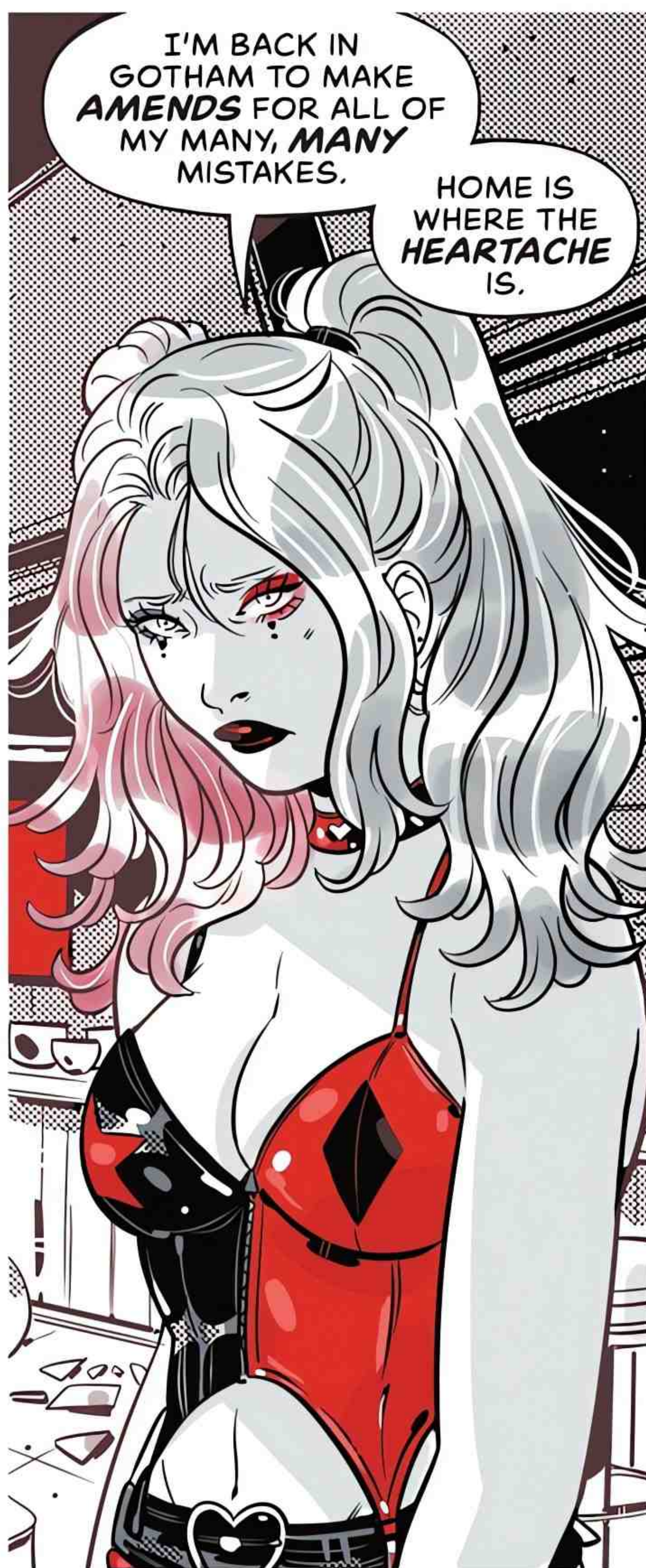




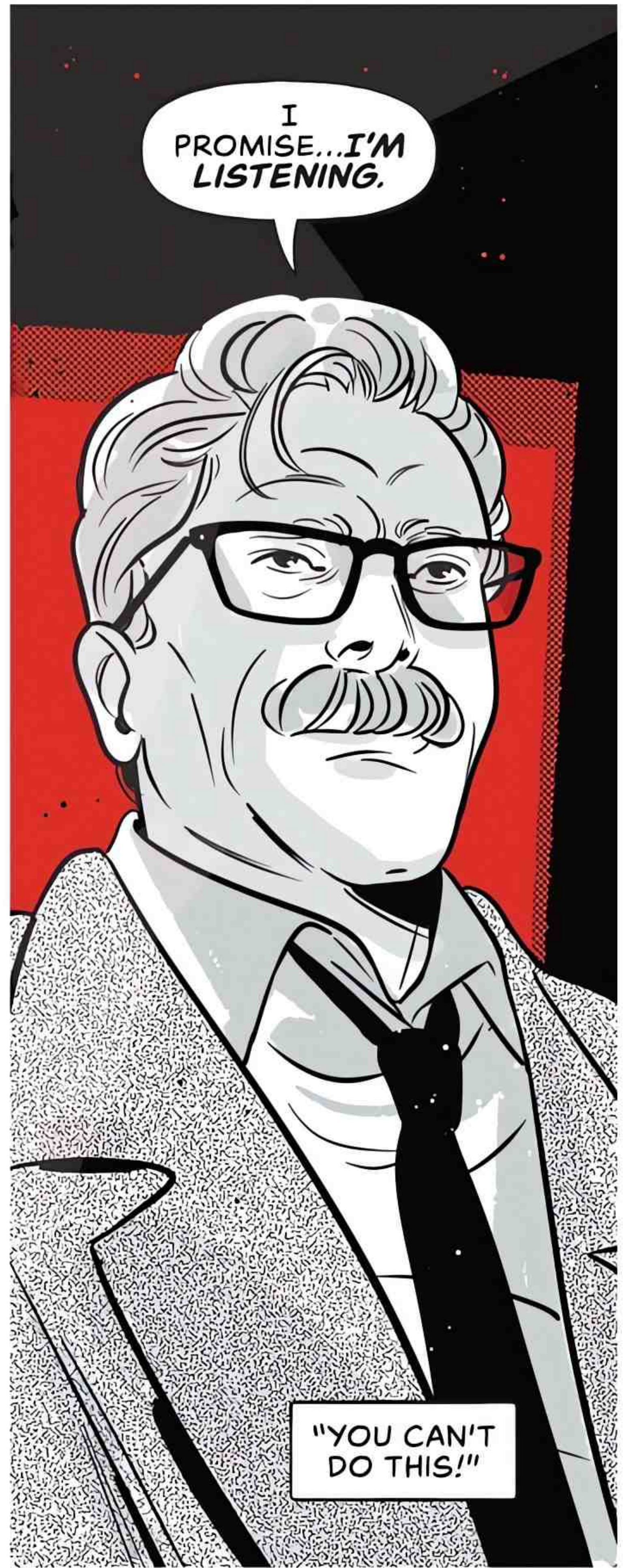
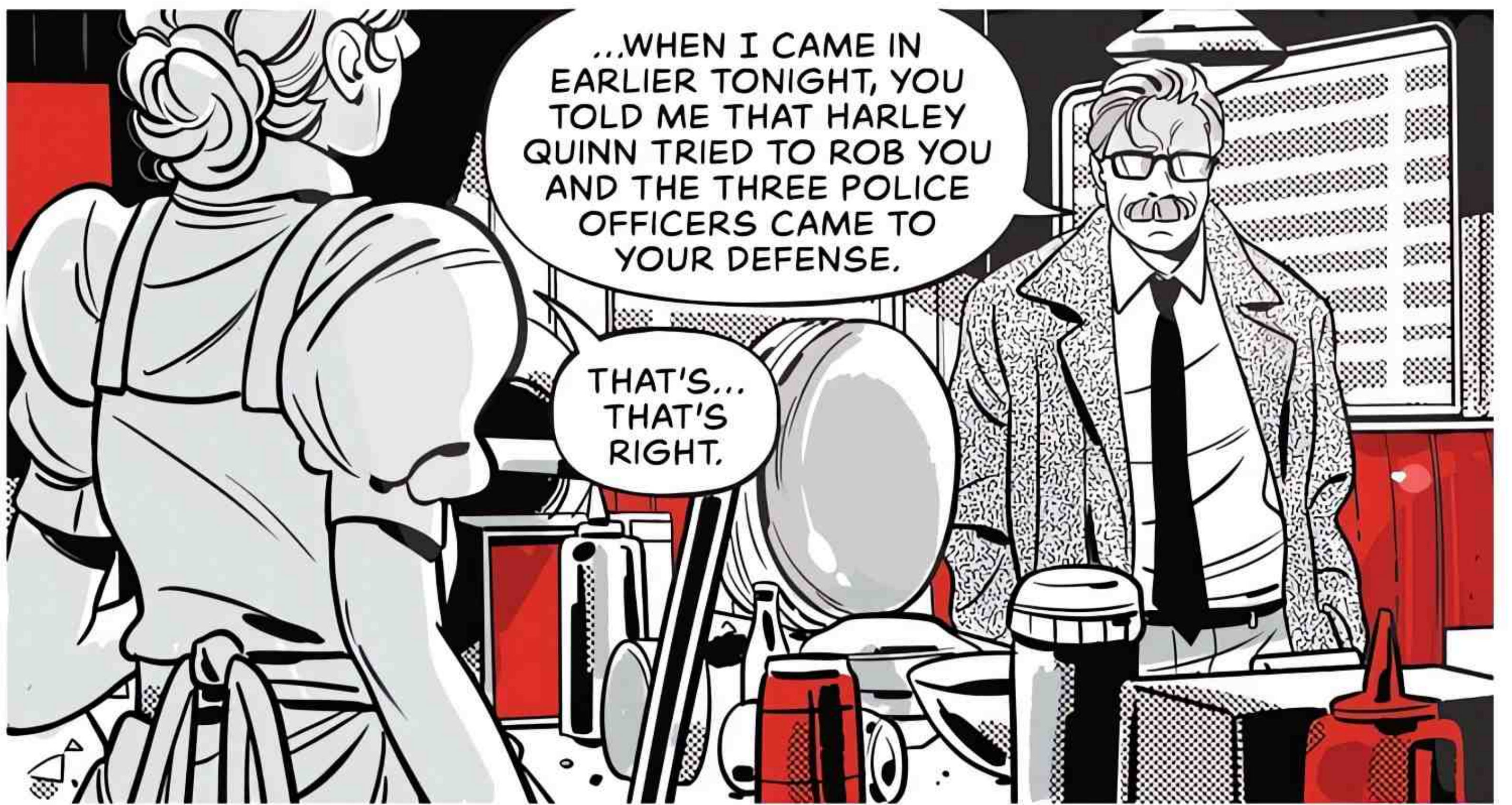
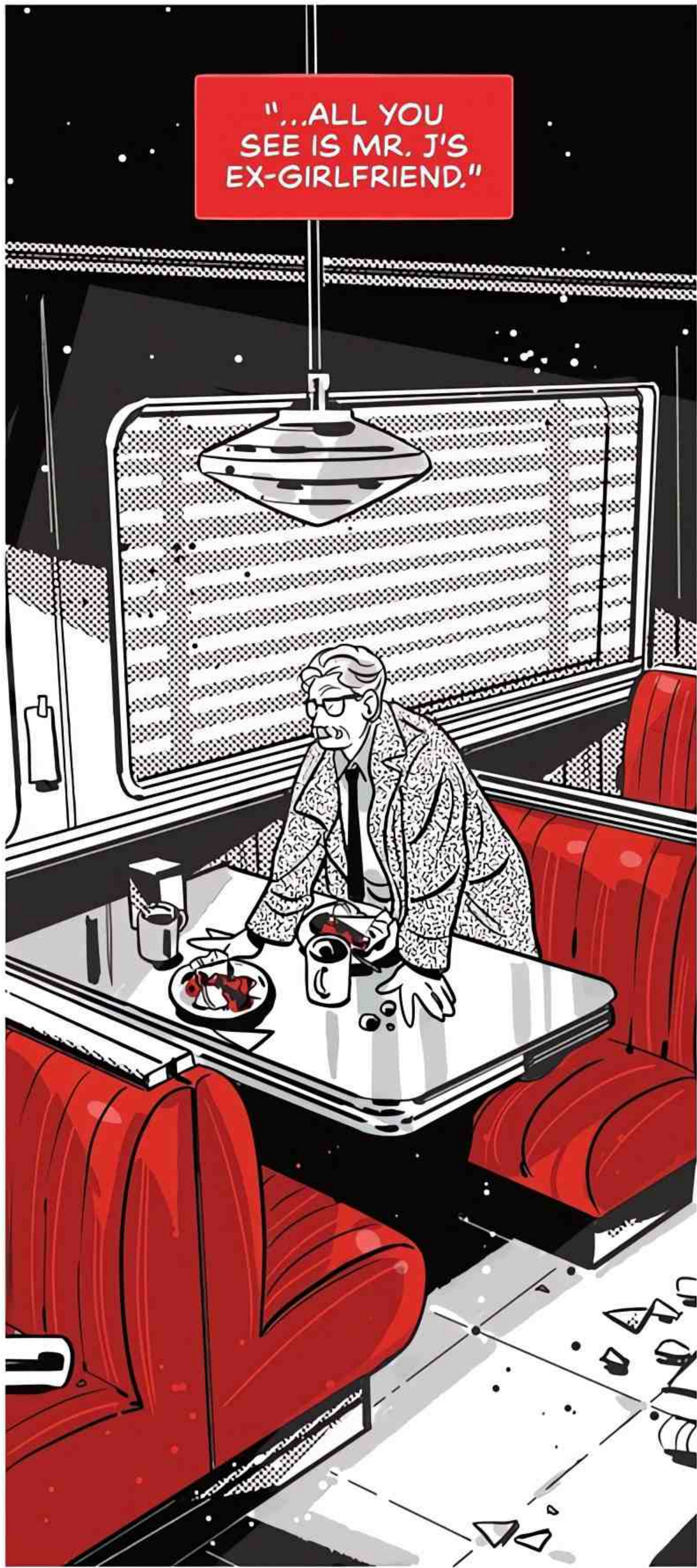




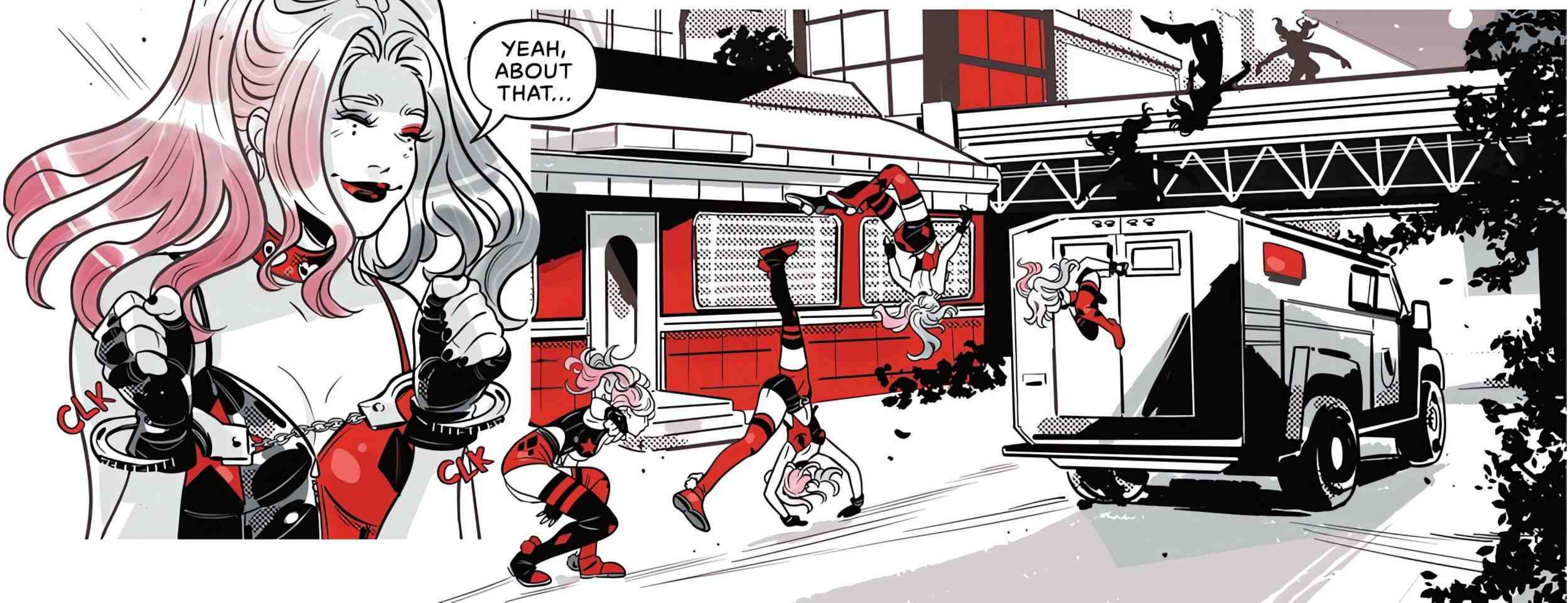
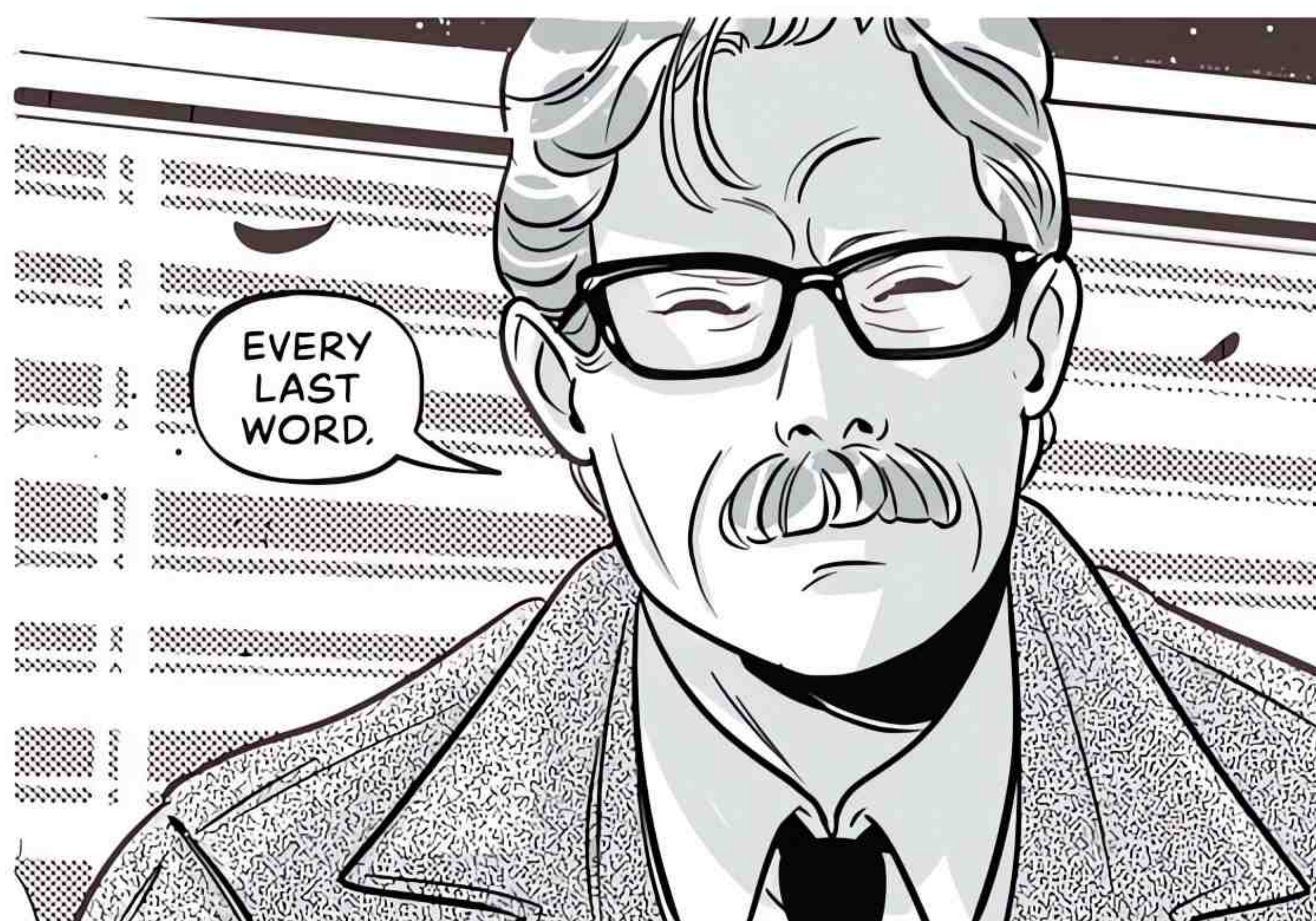
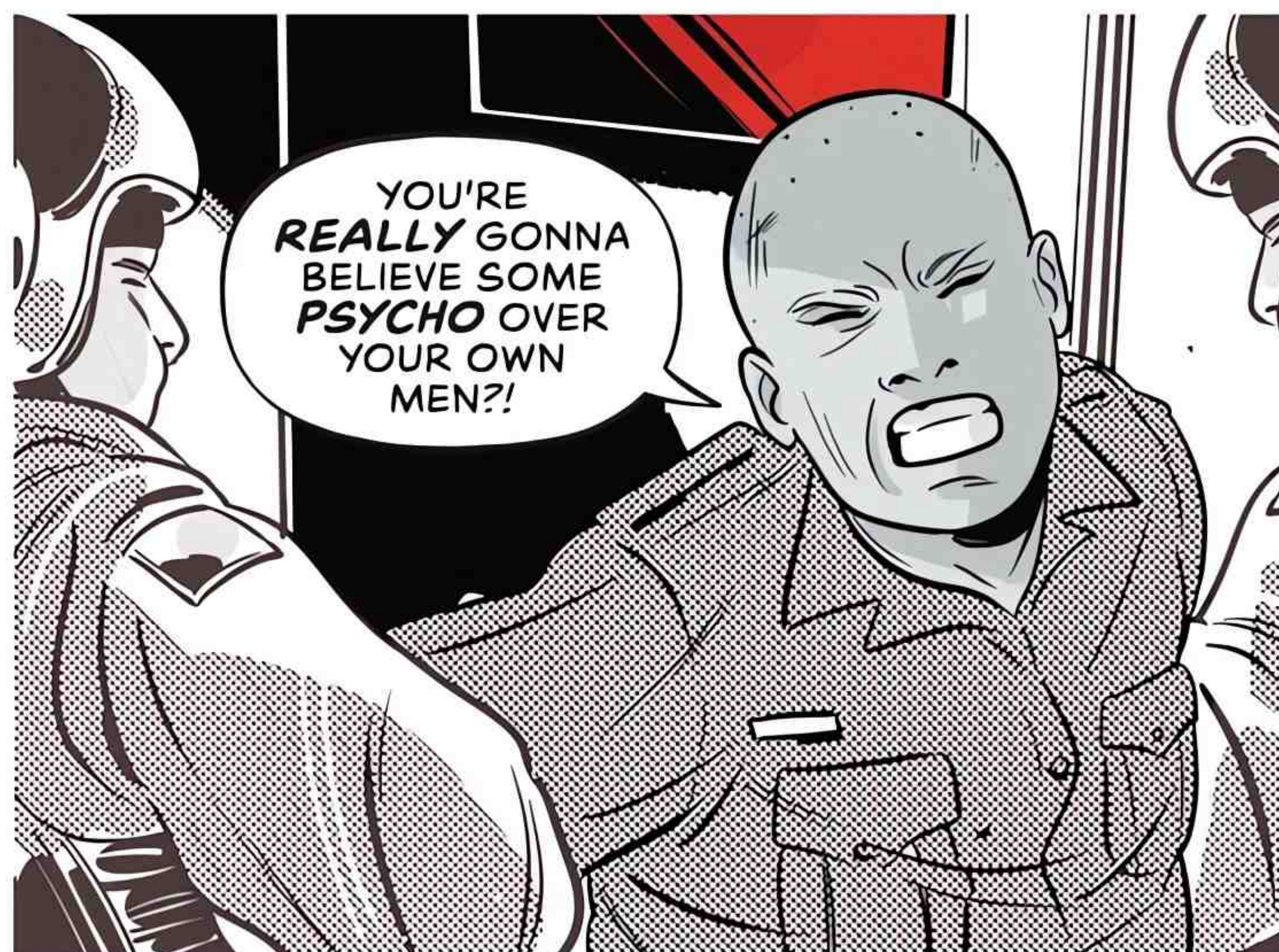




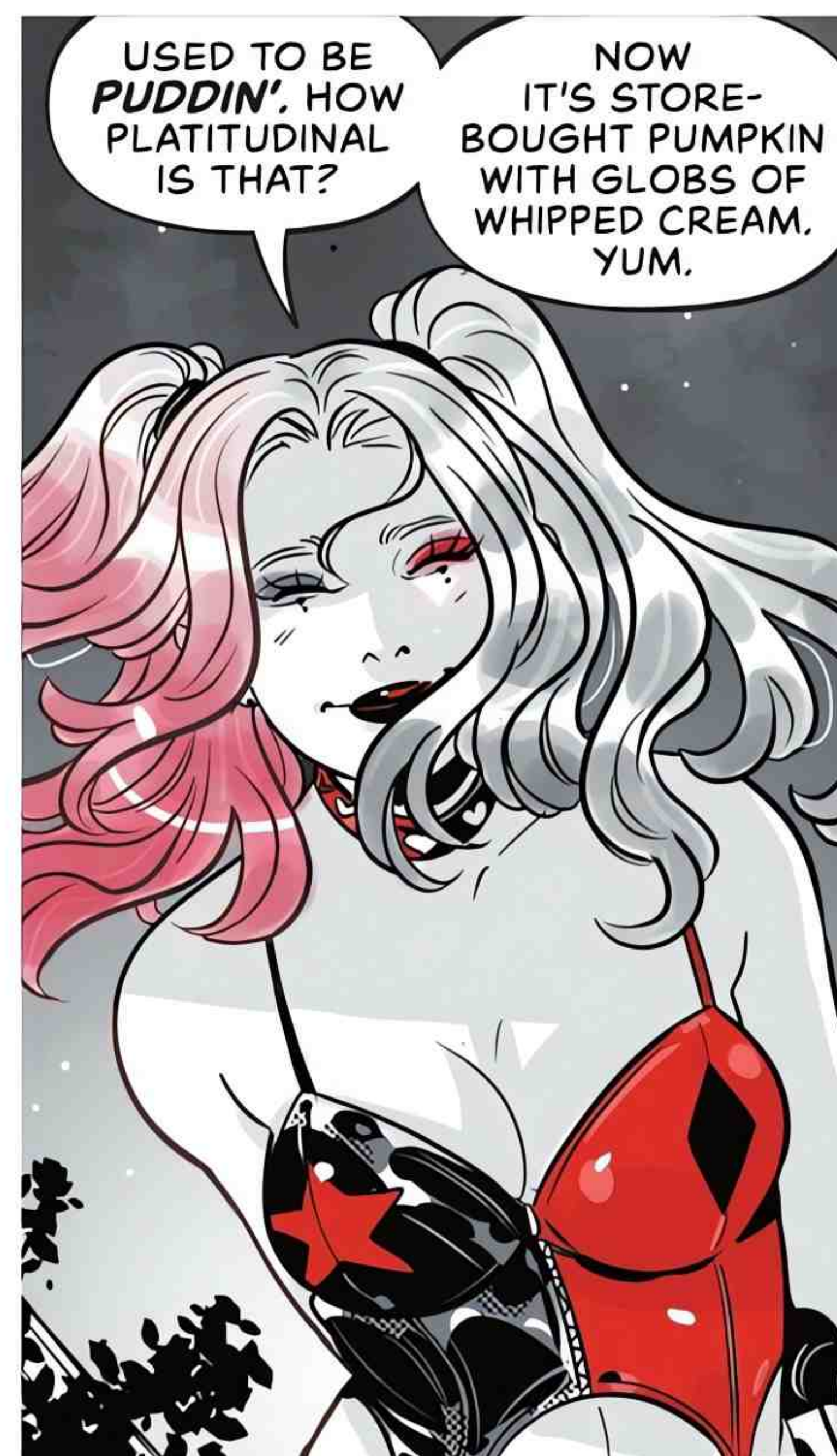
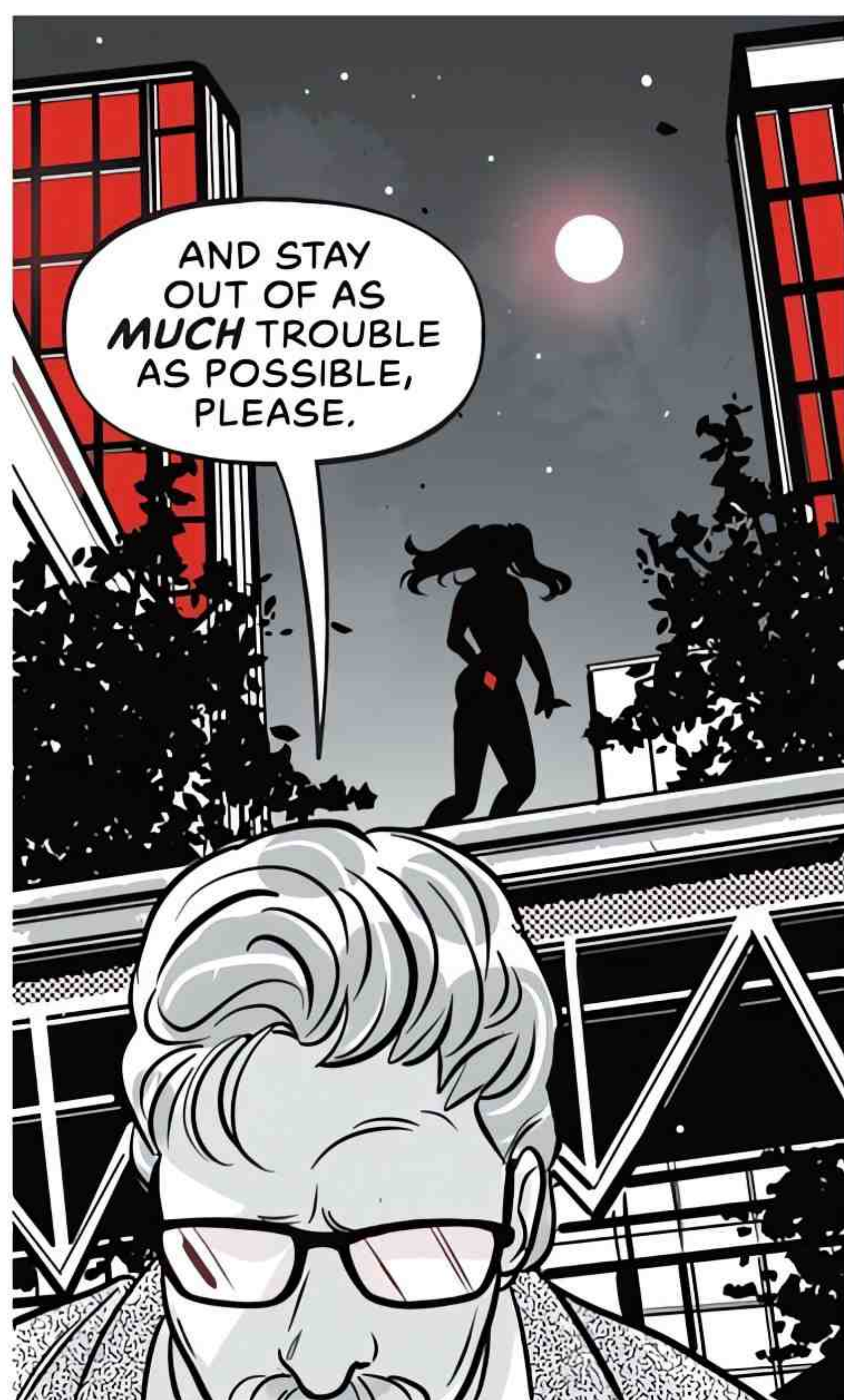










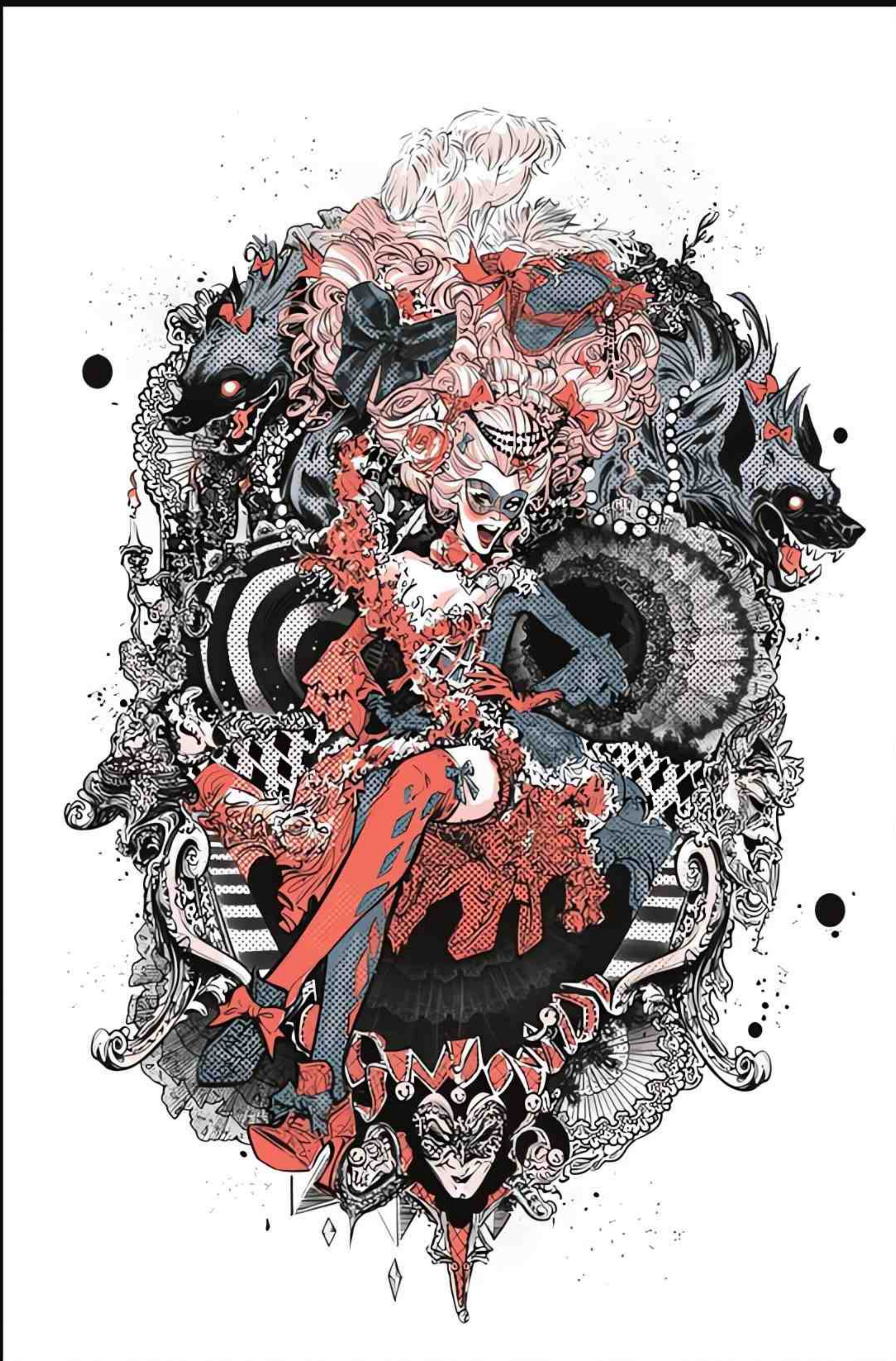




**HARLEY QUINN**  
**BLACK**  
*and*  
**WHITE**  
**+ REDDER**  
**#2**  
**COVER**  
**SHOWCASE**



COVER – CHRIS SAMNEE



VARIANT COVER – JOËLLE JONES & JORDIE DELLAIRE



125 VARIANT COVER – ANNIE WU





**NEXT MONTH!**

**GAIL SIMONE &  
DAVID BALDEÓN**

**CHRIS CONDON &  
JACOB PHILLIPS**

**JUNI DA &  
ADITYA BIDIKAR**

**COVER BY CLIFF CHIANG**



IT'S NOT JUST A DREAM!



KNIGHT TERRORS:  
**BATMAN**



THE DARK KNIGHT GETS DARKER!

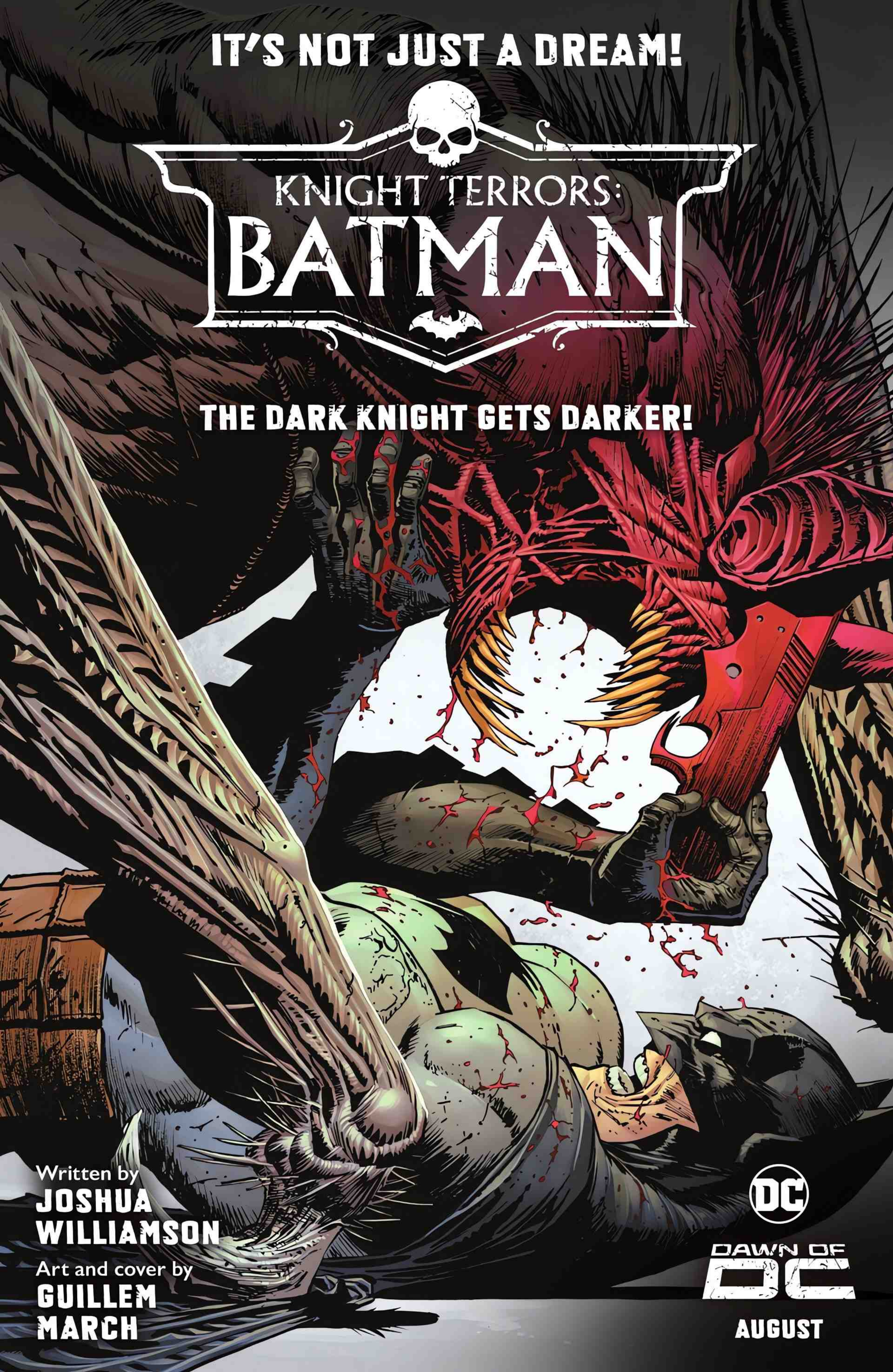
Written by  
**JOSHUA WILLIAMSON**

Art and cover by  
**GUILLEM MARCH**



DAWN OF  
**DC**

AUGUST



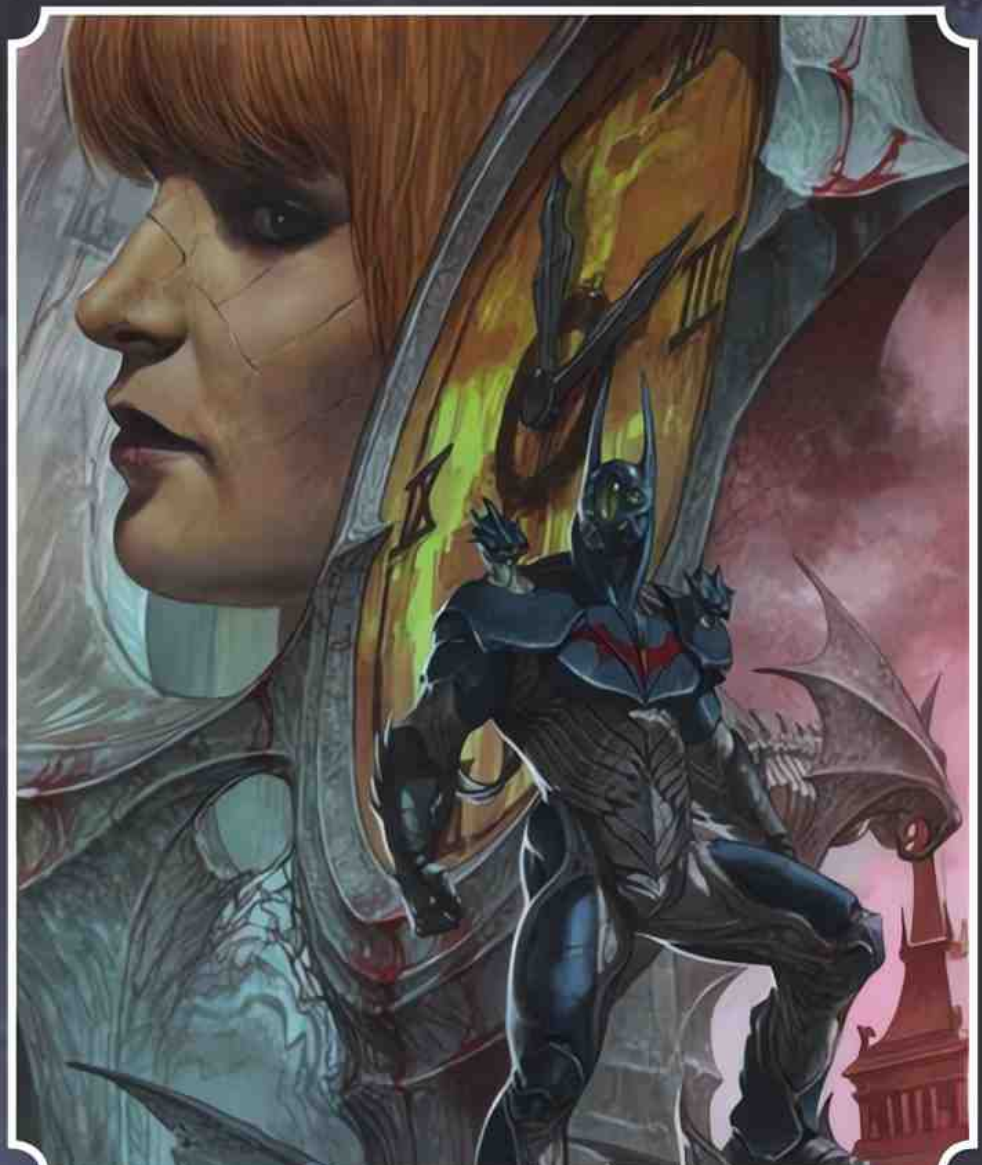


KNIGHT TERRORS:  
**DETECTIVE COMICS**

WAKE UP,  
JIM GORDON!

Written by  
**DAN WATTERS**

Art and cover by  
**RICCARDO FEDERICI**





KNIGHT TERRORS:  
**NIGHTWING**

NIGHTWING'S NIGHTMARE  
CONTINUES!



Written by  
**BECKY CLOONAN**  
**MICHAEL W. CONRAD**

Art and cover by  
**DANIELE DI NICUOLO**



KNIGHT TERRORS:  
**ROBIN**

LOST IN THEIR  
OWN PERSONAL HELLS!



Written by  
**KENNY PORTER**

Art by  
**MIGUEL MENDONÇA**

Cover by  
**IVAN REIS**

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# ANGEL MANUEL SOTO

DIRECTOR OF

## Blue Beetle



**Can you share your journey to becoming director of *Blue Beetle*?**

My journey started during the pandemic. I got a call from DC mentioning their interest in producing *Blue Beetle*, and I found myself very impressed with the origin story of this character. I thought it was interesting to do something focused on a kid that looks like me, that speaks like me, that comes from a family very close to mine.

It felt very refreshing to me, so I accepted the challenge, and here we are now.

**What's your take on Jaime Reyes as a main character?**

Jaime is more than just a relatable character. He's a kid that believed in an idea of progress and is playing by the rules and staying in his lane—and realizes that a lot of things are not like people said they would be.

Life often brings surprises, and to people like him, it's not as easy as go to college, come back, and make a career. He faces that reality of having to deal with existential issues, both within his family and within himself, and navigating the life of a college graduate. We see him encounter this mysterious scarab that chooses him—adding a layer of more problems to his life, not knowing that maybe this is his destiny. And now we go on the journey with him, and now he's going to become the hero we were all waiting for.

**Let's go back to the scarab—can you tell us a little more?**

The scarab is technology made by a colonizing alien race that was sent throughout the cosmos to land in different places and attach to its host, then dominate that host, before exploiting and obliterating the planet.

But this scarab is not like the others. The host has the capacity to communicate with the scarab and have a symbiotic connection. And this is where it gets exciting between them, and creates an interesting dynamic as a weapon of mass destruction learns how to be a nice person.



**IN THEATERS AUGUST 18!**

DC COMICS MARIE JAVINS VP – Editor-in-Chief JIM LEE President, Publisher & Chief Creative Officer ANNE DePIES Senior VP & General Manager LARRY BERRY VP – Brand Design & Creative Services DON FALLETTI VP – Manufacturing & Production LAWRENCE GANEM VP – Editorial Programming & Talent Strategy ALISON GILL Senior VP – Manufacturing & Operations NICK J. NAPOLITANO VP – Publishing & Business Operations NANCY SPEARS VP – Sales & Marketing

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**IN THIS ISSUE:**

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**KELLY THOMPSON  
AND ANNIE WU!**

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**BRANDT AND STEIN!**

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**RYAN PARROTT AND  
LUANA VECCHIO!**



COVER BY CHRIS SAMNEE